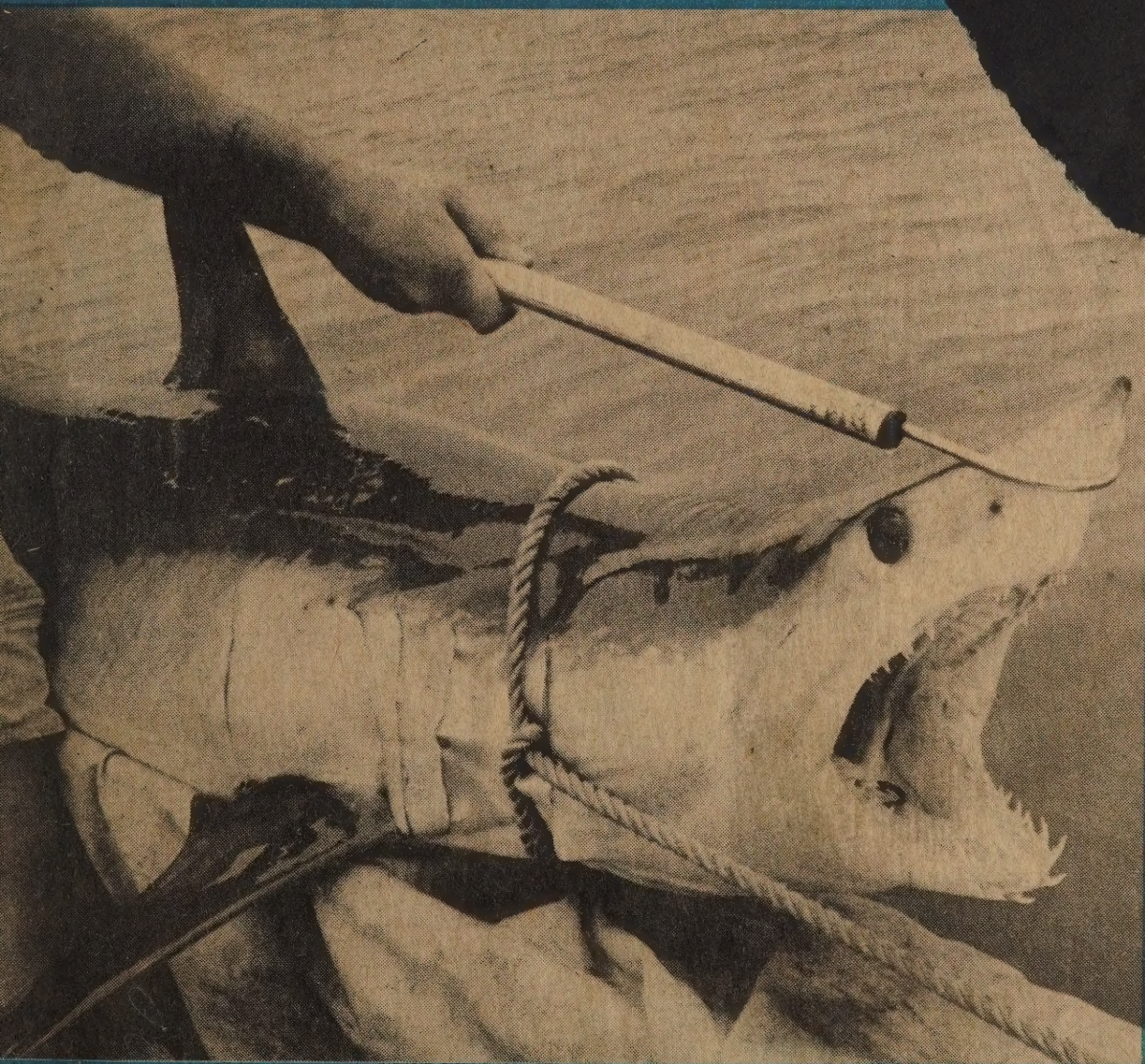




The Long Island **FISHERMAN**

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching

JULY 22nd, 1976, ISSUE No. 27



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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOL. 11, No. 27

JULY 22nd, 1976

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About the Cover—

The 1976 shark season aboard the charterboat "Shearwater" gets a nice start with this 210 lb. mako taken at the "HA" bouy by Bill Christy of Manhattan on 6-19-76. (Note hook in fishes mouth.) Photo by Capt. Don Eichin.

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News Releases

MONTAUK MARINE BASIN RESEARCH RODEO

The Montauk Marine Basin, West Lake Drive, Montauk will host the Arthur Klorfein Memorial Research Rodeo, Saturday and Sunday, August 21st and 22nd, 1976. The rodeo will emphasize research and will benefit the Montauk Fire Department, one of Arthur's many benefactors. The donation is \$75 per boat fishing inshore and \$150 for offshore.

Arthur passed away in May while vacationing in Florida. He and his boat The Salty spent many happy hours in Montauk. It is fitting that the Arthur Klorfein Memorial Rodeo take place in Montauk. This memorial will serve to honor a fine man and benefit a worthy project and at the same time provide fun for those who wish to pay tribute to a man who has been taken from us but will not be forgotten.

Arthur Klorfein was a kind, charitable sport fisherman who was helpful in promoting fair play in sports. Montauk was his second home and his first love. He was instrumental in creating growth and building the economy of Montauk. The Montauk Fire Department has Arthur to thank for the success of its ambulance service.

Jack Casey, biologist and director of research at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Center, Narragansett, Rhode Island, and a friend

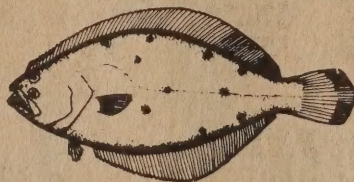
night before the opening of the Miami International Boat Show.

Requests for further information and entry forms should be directed to the Montauk Basin, West Lake Drive, Montauk, New York 11954.

of Arthur's will be advisor and take charge of the research aspect of the rodeo.

The rodeo will offer prizes and trophies for striped bass, fluke, bluefish, tuna, swordfish, mako and white marlin. Many manufacturers and dealers have donated items of fishing, marine, electronic equipment and other general products also to be given as prizes.

Every person who enters the Arthur Klorfein Memorial Research Rodeo is automatically a participant in the Motorboat Magazine Master Angler Tournament. The heaviest bluefin tuna will qualify in competition with the Cape Cod Open Tuna and the Rhode Island Tuna Tournaments. The angler who brings in the heaviest bluefin tuna will be invited to fly...at no expense to Florida next February 13th to participate in the Motorboat Master Angler Tournament; three days of tournament fishing in the Gulf Stream aboard fishing machines skippered and crewed by topflight billfish anglers and supplied by leading American boatbuilders. The event will conclude with a banquet and awards presentations on February 16th, the



Chum Lines

A SPECIAL NOTE ON SHELTER ISLAND SMALLMOUTH

Earlier this season, you may have read my article on Shelter Island Smallmouth bass fishing. I hope you will recall the fact that I mentioned the numerous small bluegills and perch my wife and daughter were catching. As a result of a New York Department of Environmental Conservation study, I have been advised by Al Kellar that this lake will be poisoned this year to kill off the overpopulation of stunted fish present in Fresh Pond on Shelter Island. A restocking program will be in the works once the water is safe for such activity. Please, don't waste a trip to Shelter Island for the sole purpose of fishing fresh pond. I'll do my best to keep you informed through this magazine as to when it will again be worth the trip. In the meantime, try Fort Pond at Montauk for smallmouth bass. Tight Lines. **Ron Miller.**

MATE OR FRIEND...ANYONE?

Larry Brezden, 21, is looking for a full time job as a mate on a party of charter boat. He is knowledgeable on all rigs and fish. Larry is also looking for a friend to take him out on their boat. He will travel to any area at any time, pay his half of the expenses, etc. You can reach Larry at (212) OR 7-2183. Come on you fishermen out there...give him a call.

PCB'S AND BASS

I love to fish for bass and had the good fortune to catch a 36 pounder last July off Rye Harbor. I would like to start to fish in earnest for bass again, however, all the talk about PCB's has me concerned.

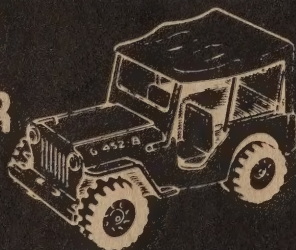
Are the bass in Long Island Sound around our area the same bass that wintered in the Hudson River and are possibly full of PCB's? I don't want to eat them unless they are safe. I would appreciate your opinion on this matter. **Frank Hacklisch, Rye.**

According to official recommendations you can safely eat striped bass once a week. The L.I.F. will run an in-depth series on PCB's in the near future, so keep an eye out for it. Dr. Wm. A. Muller



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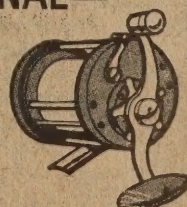


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BIG PLUGS, BIG FISH

by Pete Barrett

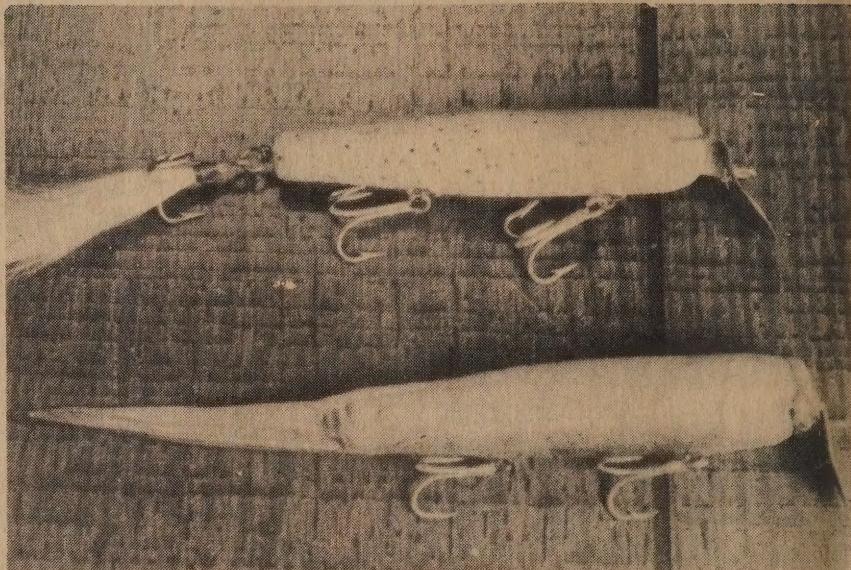
Naturally a statement like the old fishermen adage, "Big plugs mean big fish" can be argued around the cracker barrel many a winter night and never be resolved to everyone's satisfaction. Yet the fact that big, oversized plugs have merits, cannot be disputed. Many of the plugs, and their names, are unfamiliar to the current breed of anglers tossing the now standard spinning tackle sized midget lures into the salt so we'll try to take a look here at some of the proven wood and plastic creations now enjoying a resurgence of popularity.

The most popular of the big swimmers is the Atom No. 54 Jr. This is a styrofoam smaller version of it's big brother the Atom 40 (to be discussed in a moment.) Unknown to many, this plug had undergone a few changes, and due to manufacturing processes certain minor variations are inevitable. The density of each batch of styrofoam can be slightly different and sometimes the bottom half of the plug doesn't match the top half. This is not said to knock the plug, these variations can often give the lure a particular action that makes it a winner.

The Atom Jrs. that are found in most tackle shops have a shot of lead in the tail of the plug to help the caster get a few more feet on each cast. However this lead shot also makes the Jr. run just below the top of the water and this level of motion may be just the thing Mr. Bass wants. Yet take this same plug and bend the swimming lip down and the eye slightly down and this same plug chugs along on the surface, or at least tries to since some Jrs. will never get all the way to the top. Bending the lip down usually makes the Jr. roll enticingly as it swims giving it another action variation.

There also exists a no-lead Atom Junior which is not commonly found on dealer shelves. This is truly a top water plug and has little popularity with those trying to prove how far they can cast. The eye and lip of this version can also be manipulated to give varied swimming motions and with no weight in the tail it rides high in the water.

Should you want it to get down a little, simply add a rubber core sinker about 10 inches up the leader and the retrieve will be just below the surface. It can be easy to confuse the leads with the no-leads



Stripers often find eel skin plugs irresistible.

and the only real way to tell them apart is to put them in water where the leaded version is a dead ringer as it floats tail down. The no-lead 54B Jr. is available on special order from Atom Lures in Attleboro, Massachusetts at \$3.85 each.

Twisting and bending the lips and eyes to the right and left gives you a swimmer that will angle toward the left or right, and strange as it seems, there are days when stripers seem to prefer one type over another. I recall many experiences to hold some water in this theory. A left or right handed plug will swim in a rip of the opposite direction better than a standard, unchanged plug.

The part time discontinued Atom 40 is the big brother of the Junior and it does most things the Junior does, only better. Although discontinued for a short period, Bob Pond has re-introduced this famous big-bass lure and dealers can get it again. Like the Jr. the 40 as it comes from the box, has different actions. Some are heavier, some leak, some roll more, all offer that extra special something to make anyone of them a prize lure. The 40 doesn't lend itself to as much lip and eye bending but they can be altered to make the lure more effective at times. The primary attribute

of the 40 is its wave pushing action, like a crippled bunker or mullet. Draped with an eel skin, its rolling looks just like a bunker swimming lazily on the surface.

Another plug that is probably a better imitation of a live bunker is the Leo Cooper 20M Husky Dude Goo Goo Eyes. This plug has a long thick wooden body and a tail that tapers off like a fast taper fishing rod. It's this tail whipping action that makes it so deadly with an eel skin pulled over it. The towing eye is stationary but the lip can be bent to create the different swimming motions. Like other plugs, different density of the wood or a little extra paint can change the action of each plug so it pays to fool around with a few to get the needed variety.

The last of the big swimmers and more than likely discontinued forever, is the Creek Chub Surfster. It's smaller version is known to every jetty fisherman worth his salt, but the real big jobs are seldom seen, and they are admittedly rare birds to find. Their fat, cigar shaped bodies and concave swimming lip make them a strong swimmer. If you can find a Surfster anywhere, grab it. It is a durable fish catcher, and big bass love it!

REFLECTIONS:

with Mark Sosin

ON JIGGING

Ninety percent of the fish, spend most of their lives in the bottom 10 percent of the water. They may cruise periodically at mid depths or move toward the surface to feed, herding baitfish in front of them, but these predators will soon seek the safety of the depths. There are exceptions, but this basic rule will apply in virtually any waters of the world and regardless of the salinity content.

If you were to take a poll of veteran anglers and offer them a single type of artificial lure for any type of fishing, almost all of them would select a leadheaded bucktail or a modern variation of one. Their argument would be that the bucktail gives them versatility and they can cast it, troll it, or jig it and it will still catch fish.

Combining the fact that most fish are close to the bottom (or at least at mid-depth) and that the bucktail ranks among the most universal and deadliest lures ever crafted, it stands to reason that the technique of deep jigging has to be an extremely effective method. It definitely is along some parts of the coastline where specialists have honed his method into a fine art.

In the northeast where most of us do our fishing, deep jigging is a disaster. It cannot even be referred to as a forgotten technique, because few anglers ever earned it in the first place. Those who have tried it find that it can tempt a striped bass off Sandy Hook, appeal to a bluefish in Long Island Sound, or catch both species in the Race off Connecticut. The same approach works on weakfish and you can use it to tease a lake into striking if you prefer artificials or you're out of bait.

There's no secret to working a jig properly and even mediocre efforts will produce results, providing the angler can believe in the method and is willing to give it a total try. You must be totally convinced that deep jigging is deadly and that you are going to catch fish when you tie that jig on the line.

Most of the better deep jigging rods are made from the live bait blanks that gained popularity on the West Coast. These shafts transfer the power right into the butt and they are lightweight as well as strong, boasting plenty of lifting power. You can jig with either spinning or plug casting tackle. If you saw a perfectly designed jigging rod, your first comment would be that the butt is too short. There's a reason and you should

know it. When you are fighting a fish or working a jig, you want the butt cap in your gut and the reel right in front of you so that you can lock your arms in at your side, spin your wrist, and turn the reel handle without reaching.

A standard spinning rod should be 7½ or 8 feet long with a very, very short butt. The basic plug outfit is 7 feet in length. Veteran deep jiggers use 15 pound test line on plug and perhaps 12 or 15 pound test on spin. The spinning reel should be medium sized with a relatively fast rate of retrieve. You want at least 4 to 1 and hopefully faster.

Plug casting or bait casting never really appealed to the majority of salt water fishermen in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, yet it is unquestionably the deadliest form of light tackle fishing and the best fighting tool for its size. You'll find that a reel such as the Penn 940, Ambassador 6000 or 6500, and Daiwa's comparable model would be an excellent choice. Some neophytes feel they have to use an Ambassador 7000 or comparable reel, but it is really too large for the tackle and not really needed. As long as you can get between 200 and 250 yards of 15 pound test mono on the reel and the drag is relatively smooth (some must be worked on), you won't have a problem in the world with the fish in our waters. The key is to have a rod with enough reserve power to lift the fish. If you let your quarry sulk in the depths, you'll be there half a day and probably lose the fish in the process.

Deep jiggers are fussy when it comes to bucktails or jigs. Hopkins and diamond jigs will work well and so will some of the tube type lures with a weight in the head. These have proven effective on bluefish. The standard fare for the deep jigger, however, has been the specially designed white bucktail dressed with a tail of one's choosing. You can actually deep jig successfully in water up to 200 feet, but it is easier in shallower terrain. With 15 pound test mono, you can fish most waters with a 2¼ or 2½ ounce bucktail and work progressively lighter depending on depth and the amount of tide or current.

Almost every bucktail I use for this technique is white, although other colors do work. It's partly habit and just years of getting better results with white. Every bucktail you use should have Mylar dressing over the bucktail or the

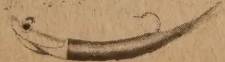
nylon. Mylar adds a certain flash that can make a difference.

The shape of the head is important. Better bucktails have knife edges or cutting edges. The most popular in those areas where deep jigging is a religion is an arrowhead design. If you hang a curly tail worm on the jig hook or pork rind for some other tail, you'll do better than if you fish the bucktail without the addition. The master at designing and tying deep jigs is Gordon Young in Miami (5111 S.W. 112th Avenue, Miami, Fla. 33165.) Gordon is a top ranked offshore angler and has forgotten more about deep jigging than most of us will ever learn. Locally, Mai Tai (14 Greentwig Drive, Toms River, N.J.) has been producing a nice assortment of jigs that are gaining favor with fishermen in this area.

No matter where you fish, the best results with a deep jig come from vertical jigging. If you persist in casting, letting the lure sink, and then retrieving, it is not going to be as effective as simply freespooling it to the bottom. Put the boat in neutral, open the bail or depress the freespool on the reel, and let the bucktail plummet straight to the bottom. When it hits, the line will go slack momentarily. Engage the reel and start a sequence of pumping by lifting the rod and reeling in the slack. The speed and length of the stroke will create various actions on the bucktail end.

If you are working strictly for bottom species, you may make 6 or 8 pumps and then let the lure fall back, starting again. For full coverage on bass and blues, it pays to fish the lure all the way to the surface. When the tide or current is too strong to allow you to reach bottom almost vertically, use a heavier bucktail or toss the lure slightly upcurrent and let it sink. I cannot emphasize the importance of the vertical jigging technique enough.

It has always been a mystery to me why the better fishermen haven't pounced on this technique. One would think that when boats are trolling back and forth over a particular spot dragging wire lines or using downriggers, it would make sense to drift it and deep jig. The fish you catch are going to be more fun on the lighter tackle and you may catch more than you bargained for in the process.





THE BOTTOM LINE

with Scott Simons

The Science of Fluke Fishing Part VII

This week we are going to wind up this series on fluke fishing by covering one of the deadliest, most effective but little used method of taking fluke...artificial lures. As I have often conceded in the past, fluke usually don't pull all that great of a fight for some reason, unless they are taken on artificials. Where a fluke will softly pick up a natural bait and often hang on to it as they are reeled in to the surface, for some reason they seem to pounce on an artificial with a vengeance, even making a short run-off or two of line.

Although virtually any artificial may be slowly worked within the feeding zone of the fluke will take an occasional fish or two, we'll concentrate on those that I have personally used and you can take it from there. The four most effective lures that I have used and always carry in my tackle box are white bucktails, Tri-Fin Whiptails, Garcia Abu-Reflex and Hopkins "Shorty". Each should be worked in a particular manner and has its own advantage under certain conditions.

BUCKTAILS: Small bucktails of one-half to one-ounce in weight are far and above any other artificial for fluke...they are absolutely deadly and I have reached the point where I rely on them almost entirely. Don't mess around with all those weird colors. Use WHITE, WHITE and WHITE. If you're an incurable color freak, try the lima-bean shaped bucktail heads that are painted white and red. Sometimes this combination works well when the water is populated with small mullet or sandeels. But I stick

with a half-ounce white bucktail with a ball head, which has the added advantage of taking an occasional weakfish, bluefish and even striped bass.

Make sure that you tip the bucktail with a small strip of squid. Don't try to substitute porkrind here, it just doesn't work as well because it is virtually smellless. The purpose of the squid strip is not for an enticing flutter, it's more for the smell of something good to eat. Cut the squid into SMALL strips about two inches long and a half-inch wide tapering to a point. Take care not to use strips longer than two inches, because the fluke will usually hit it short, missing the hook and ripping off the squid in the process. I try to cut the strips to a length that will end at the same place as the bucktail hairs when it is on the hook. If you get caught without a supply of squid for some reason, try using a small strip of fluke belly from the thinner, white side of the fish. Scrape some of the meat off the skin first so that the strip isn't too thick.

The squid tipped bucktail can be worked during the retrieve by several methods. Try each until you find which the fluke prefer. Remember, it is very important that you use a slow retrieve and don't make any violent actions that will keep taking the bucktail out of the feeding zone of the fluke, which is usually within the three feet of water just off the bottom. The three basic retrieves are the twitch, sweep and straight. The twitch, which I prefer, is simply a moderately sharp six-inch or less twitch

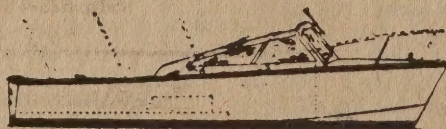
of the rod top, a half to one-turn of the reel handle followed by another twitch and repeated over again. The "sweep" is two or three turns of the reel handle followed by a pause as the rod tip is slowly pulled back two or three feet, then repeated. The "straight" retrieve is just that...the bucktail is taken in with a slow, steady turning of the reel handle so that the bucktail slowly glides just over the bottom. As a general rule, bucktails are most effective in depths between 5 and 15 feet. Use a half-ounce size for water 5 feet and up to a one-ounce head for water up to 15 feet.

WHIPTAILS: The Tri-Fin Whiptail is also an effective artificial for fluke and has the advantage over the bucktail in that it can be effectively used in deeper water up to 30 feet or more. The Whiptail is actually a white split-tube attached to a keeled lead-head. A squid strip is also essential to its effectiveness, however. In shallow water of five to 15 feet, the one-ounce size may be either retrieved straight and slow just off the bottom or with a slight jiggling action. In depths of over fifteen feet, Whiptails are effective when they are up to three ounces with squid which may be lowered to the bottom and worked with a jiggling motion without any retrieve at all.

ABU-REFLEX: The Garcia Abu-Reflex or similar type of artificial is excellent for taking fluke in the shallow waters of the bay. A spinning blade above a lead-cylinder body with a hairy treble hook—that's it! Basically a freshwater lure, they come in a wide variety of colors, but I have found those with either a white or yellow body and a plain silver or gold blade to be the most effective. But then again, those are the only patterns I have used, so all you color freaks can do your thing. A squid strip is not only unnecessary for this lure, but it will actually interfere with its action. Just cast it out and use a slow, steady retrieve. The fluke will take it from there.

HOPKINS "SHORTY": Excellent because it can be effective in the full range of water depths. Purchase only those with the single hook, with or without bucktail hair. Use of a strip of squid is preferred but not essential to performance. In shallow depths of five to ten feet use a slow, straight retrieve or modify it with a slight twitching action every third or fourth turn of the reel handle. In depths of over ten or fifteen

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feet, lower the Hopkins to the bottom and use a jigging action.

As I've said, these are the four artificials that I rely on, but there are others that are also effective, like: artificial plastic shrimp so popular with the weakfish, Tri-Fin Jig 'N Shrimp, Chummin Squid and single tube lures, even small swimming plugs like the Rebel and Cordell Redfin. So don't feel limited in what lures you try and feel free to experiment and improvise.

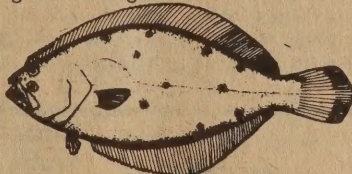
There are two basic methods of casting an artificial for fluke: up-current and cross-current. The up-current cast is used when the drift is very fast and it is difficult to keep the artificial close to the bottom within the feeding zone of the fluke. The artificial is cast into the direction of the drift, so that the drifting boat is constantly moving directly towards the artificial. After the cast, wait a few seconds to begin the retrieve so the lure has time to settle to the bottom. Then begin the retrieve, which is actually little more than taking in the slack line created as the boat drifts towards the lure. Make a half or one-turn of the real handle followed by a very short twitch of the rod tip. The bucktail, whiptail or artificial shrimp should remain almost stationary, dancing up and down about six inches off the bottom. Another method is to use a long, sweeping motion of the rod tip, then reeling in the slack line and repeating the sweep so that the artificial glides over the bottom.

The second type of cast is used when the drift is moderately fast and there is no problem in keeping the artificial within the feeding zone...the cross-current cast. Cast the artificial into the direction of the drift, but at an angle of no more than 45 degrees. Let the lure settle to the bottom, then begin either

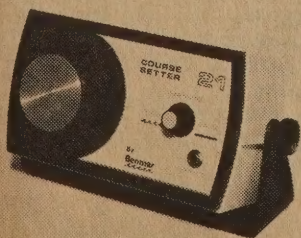
the slow twitch of sweeping retrieve as previously described. The artificial will return to the boat in an arc as shown in diagram B. This method of retrieving has an advantage over the up-current cast because it covers more territory while keeping the artificial close to the bottom. The most important thing to remember when casting artificials for fluke is to **KEEP THE LURE CLOSE TO THE BOTTOM** within the feeding zone of the fluke.

Now that we know what lures to use and how to cast and retrieve, the next order of business is to decide where to ply our skills. Generally, casting artificials for fluke is most effective in shallow water areas. Primary spots are the edges of sand bars, beach drop-offs, the edges of channels and slopes coming off the flats. Try them all. Look for the change in water color where the water suddenly changes depth and make a point of casting over this line at an angle so that your retrieve will bring your lure through these prime fluke haunts for the longest period of time during the retrieve.

I could go on and on about the various methods and techniques for taking fluke, but space limitations have run out. If this series of articles have whetted your appetite for more information on how to catch this most popular of all gamefishes in our waters, once again I would like to recommend that you order a copy of my book "Fishing for Fluke," a Fisherman Publication available by mail-order through The Long Island Fisherman. See the order blank on page 24 of this issue, and good fluking!!!



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Surf Side

with John Fritz

ONE OF THOSE IN-BETWEEN SPOTS

The Club contest at Ceder was set to start at 6 P.M.. Although fishing had been lousy for the past few weeks, there was one bright possibility for the coming night. Large blues had been working on the outside of the Bar for the past few days. While they mostly stayed out of casting range, occasionally they made a foray over the bar and a few were being plugged by patient surferman.

My arrival at 5:30 found several casters plying the white water of the bar with poppers. Sensing that something must have caused this activity, I hurriedly dressed and choosing a large Polaris for extra distance, went to work with the others. At 5:50 I received a smashing hit and was solidly into a big blue. Just about then a contingent of Brooklyn club members drove up and chided me about being 10 minutes early. The thought crossed my mind to try and play the fish for the intervening period. Fish were scarce for me that year so I decided not to fool around. It didn't matter anyway, for after a give and take battle, I dropped him in the wash.

This was a spark to set the whole club in motion. After flailing the bar with plugs until arm weary, the majority settled down to fish bottom. Several hours passed, with one fish on the beach, a nice sized blue caught by one of our junior anglers showing up the best of

the club.

As we stood around complaining about the lousy turn of events, four of us decided to give the Old Channel a try. The time was perfect, two hours after high. Off we went.

To make a long story short, Richie picked up one blue of 12 pounds during the period of slack water. The sweep and weed then forced us further down the beach. This fish was good enough to win the contest as our club did not score with an eligible fish the rest of the night. No inspiring fish story but maybe it will illustrate the two points I want to make in the following article.

Anyone fishing the Cedar Beach area on the south shore knows that the Sore Thumb and the Bar are prime places to catch fish. Although there are occasions when these two spots don't produce, for one reason or another: Too much surf, weed, boats, people, or maybe a netter are a few possibilities readily recalled. Of course the fish could be off their feed or maybe gone from the area.

Very often you will see buggies leaving the Bar area after going fishless & drive directly to the Thumb thereby passing by hundreds of yards of beach without a glance. I've done it myself many times. After striking out at the imagined better spot I've wondered about the fish I might have driven past in

my anxiety to reach this popular hot spot.

Assuming weather conditions are normal, a surf fisherman's procedure is influenced by several factors such as prior experiences, the desires of his fishing pals, the latest fishing reports or maybe a particular stretch of beach receiving an unusual amount of attention from other fishermen. Naturally if these guys are catching fish you should have no problem, when space is available, if your tackle is suited to the task.

Many times surf fishermen will gravitate to a particular piece of beach, possibly out of habit or because they read about some fish being caught there recently. The key word is recently. Stop and think about how many days it takes from the time the fish are actually caught until you read about it in the paper. I'm not saying that you should not read the reports and give it a try, but we are talking about roving schools of bass and blues not flounders and blackfish. There are times when you can read a report and manage to catch fish but these instances are few. One thing I will say is that the columns will tell you what is going on in the area and give you a place to start with the expectation of some chance of success.

Let me give you an example of what I'm saying. Our club has a system of communication known as a "fish call". This means that a club member finding himself into some hot fishing telephones one club member. This starts a chain reaction whereby all available club members are informed that fish are being caught in good quantity on a particular piece of beach.

Last year I was on both ends of this chain on two occasions. The first instance Vito Orlando called from Montauk to say he had bass to 49 pounds. Three of us piled into Jerry's camper and made a mid-night ride to Shagwong in a torrential downpour. You guessed it, too late. On the other occasion it took Walter less than a hour to get to Cedar. Again the fish were gone.

The point I'm trying to make is, after giving the normally hot spots a reasonable try, move off down the beach and try new areas.

In getting back to Cedar Beach, the stretch of beach between the bar and Thumb which I call the Old Channel, is generally not crowded and has produced fish when other spots in this area fail.



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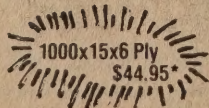
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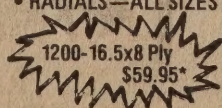
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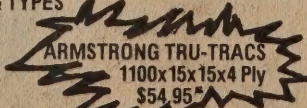
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This has relatively deep water within an easy cast of the beach. In years past the boat channel for Fire Island Inlet ran along this beach before turning south at the bar.

This is an excellent place for spring flounders if that is your bag. Although I haven't fished here myself for early bass with worms their presence is evident by the fact that bass are incidentally caught by flounder fishermen.

At this same time of year you find most shore fishermen seeking weakfish, shoulder to shoulder, at the drawbridge in the State Channel. Others wanting a little elbow-room tramp through the muck to fish the State Channel behind Cedar. This is not necessary as there are weaks on the outside. While the Old Channel area doesn't compare with the Thumb and Democrat Point it does hold it's share of weakfish. Later on in June when fishing for big bass using mackerel strips we pick up some nice sized weaks. You'll have better success if your terminal gear and bait presentation are chosen with weakfish in mind.

As long as we are off the subject of bass and blues another fish caught in some quantity here are fluke. There are better spots to fish from shore for these summer flatties, but they are there to fall back on if the more exotic species are absent. While hanging around sopping up the July sun grab your light stick and try a bucktail festooned with a strip of mackerel or sea robin belly. Bounce the lure along the bottom. It's all sand once you are away from the Thumb. You could save the day from a total wipeout and put some food on the table.

Back to the "good guys." June begins the run of larger bass on the south shore area of Fire Island Inlet which will continue well into November. Naturally the run slackens during the hot summer months. In the early part of the run mackerel and bunker fished on the bottom are a good bet. During late summer and fall live eels come into their own, as with most south shore bottom fishing. Another bait which is used with impressive results by a few regulars throughout this period is clam bellies.

Marauding schools of bluefish frequently ply this channel but as you know one minute they are there and the next they are gone, so it's a matter of luck to be at the right place at the right time. The past few years have seen some giant blues stalking this area, usually they don't provide the exhilarating action of their smaller brothers and must be fished with bait on the bottom. This year they should be bigger yet so pray that your wire leader holds.

Fishing bottom here has one big drawback. Weed. Eel grass, cabbage, and worst of all Irish Wool which must be tediously picked off piece by piece

from your line and terminal gear. When the weed is bad, fishing when the tide is running is impossible, so try to time your fishing to times of slack water. Remember, slack water is not the same as high or low water.

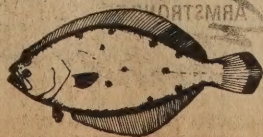
Since this is an area of calmer water and an absence of rocks and obstructions light tackle can be employed here more readily than other sections of this beach. A leisurely stroll along here working Red Fins or Rebels as you go is a pleasant way to spend a summer night. The vast majority of fish taken in this manner are schoolies and while I haven't seen any real large bass taken like this, one never knows what can happen when one's line is in the water. It's common knowledge that big bass are plugged off the Bar and the Thumb. This area is a natural link between the two.

Buggies are not needed to fish this location. In fact you will cover the beach more thoroughly without one. It is a short walk from the parking field at Cedar Beach Overlook to the fishing area. The Old Channel starts at the Sore Thumb and runs West, past the parking field, to the Bar a few hundred yards to the West. To illustrate this let me relate an incident which I witnessed a few years ago.

It was mid-morning in June and I was fishing bottom a hundred yards east of the parking lot. Just off the beach in front of me a boat was clam chumming, without any luck I might add. Anyway I deduced that by casting my bait into their chum slick I would have a better chance of success than fishing off on my own. Two hours later we were all still fishless when another surfcaster came along working the beach as she went. Not with plugs but with bait. Casting out with a few feet of line retrieved at a time, she connected with a nice bass of 10 pounds a few hundred feet upstream of the boat.

The basic rule when fishing an inlet is to fish on the last of the ebb tide. The reason being that the bait is flushed out of the inlet to the waiting predatory fish. Sounds logical but I've had my best days, I should say nights, fishing the top half of the incoming water.

There are many local areas that see more action than the Old Channel. Besides pointing out a few possibilities of this location the point of the article is not to let yourself get into a rut. Try out new areas, break your normal routine. You might run into a blitz and have it all to yourself. It has happened to me with half a dozen buggies on the Thumb a few hundred yards away.



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The Lasting Gourmet

Chincoteague Oyster Souffle, General Fish-Cooking Info.

Chincoteague Oyster Souffle General Fish—Cooking Info

How well I remember the Sunday evening suppers we had in our home when I was growing up in Brooklyn! My dearly loved Father presided over the dining room table and did his cooking in a chafing dish heated by an alcohol flame. And hot dishes they were! Oyster stews which were out-of-this-world made with 50/50 milk and heavy cream plus butter. Calories didn't count in those days; all that mattered was the degree of satisfaction one achieved in creating a culinary master-piece. I guess that it was the kind of upbringing which has made me so much interested in the preparation and enjoyment in eating of fine foods.

The National Marine Fisheries Service apropos of oysters, says the following in their release: Lo—the mighty oyster! The oyster is small, 'tis true, but can any other product in the market boasts of a museum dedicated to it alone? Chincoteague, Virginia, famed for the prized Chincoteague oysters, has a hall of fame dedicated to this popular bivalve. This monument to a mollusk is a tourist attraction and an information center for scientists and students. Exhibits display the osyter's life cycle, and information on a number of other shell fish as well. The museum features living organisms in aquariums, a library and a display of artifacts, implements, and scale models of the oyster trade and its history. Oysters have been an important part of culinary history throughout the years, and are in even greater demand today. They are naturally tender, easily digested and provide excellent nutrition. Shucked, ready-to-cook oysters meats are available either fresh or frozen, and may be purchased by the pint, quart, or in handy 8, 10 and 12 ounce cans. They adapt to many preparation methods in dozens of savory, satisfying entrees.



Chincoteague Oyster Souffle is a Virginia recipe for you to enjoy in your own home. It is perfect for that special occasion when you want to impress the family or guests. Souffles are not difficult to make, but the recipe should be carefully followed and the souffle served immediately. If any waiting is to be done, let it be the family or guests who will anticipate the eating even more as the heavenly aroma of the light-as-a-cloud souffle is placed on the table or buffet. Hot creamy lemon sauce serves as the crowning touch for this gourmet entree.

Chincoteague Oyster Souffle

2 cans (10 ounces each) oysters, fresh or frozen.

½ cup chopped onion

⅓ cup butter or oleo

½ cup flour

1 ½ tspns salt

½ tspn paprika

Dash of pepper

Dash nutmeg

1 cup milk

4 eggs, separated

creamy lemon sauce

Thaw the oysters; drain and reserve ½

Mona Lisa

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cup liquor. Coarsely chop oysters. Cook onion slowly in saucepan in oleo or butter until tender, not brown. Stir in flour, salt, paprika and nutmeg. Add milk and reserved oyster liquor; cook until thickened, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Beat egg yolks until thick and lemony colored. Add egg yolks to hot mixture slowly stirring constantly. Fold in oysters. Beat the egg whites until they hold soft peaks. Carefully fold egg whites into oyster mixture. Pour into ungreased 2 quart souffle dish or deep casserole. Bake in slow oven, 325 F for about 60 to 70 minutes or until souffle is puffed, browned and set. Serve with Creamy Lemon Sauce. (Makes 6 serv.)

Creamy Lemon Sauce

2 tablespoons oleo or butter
2 tablespoons flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon paprika
1 1/4 cups milk
1/2 cup salad dressing or mayonnaise
1 tablespoon lemon juice

Melt oleo or butter in saucepan. Stir in flour, salt and paprika. Add milk; cook

until thickened and smooth, stirring constantly. Blend in salad dressing or mayonnaise and lemon juice; heat. Serve with the Chincoteague Oyster Souffle.

In the following Timetable for Cooking Fish, it might be well to explain exactly what is meant by "Pan-Dressed," "Raw-breaded Fish Portions," and "Fried Fish Portions and Sticks." For the housewife of a fisherman who doesn't bring home enough fish to satisfy the family's demands or one who wants to employ the simplest possible procedures in preparing a repast, these items are obtainable in all supermarkets and are described as follows: **Raw Breaded Fish Portions** are cut from frozen fish blocks, coated with a batter, breaded, packaged and frozen. Raw breaded fish portions weigh more than 1 1/2 ounces, are at least 3/8 inches thick and must contain not less than 75 percent fish flesh according to Gov. inspection standards.

Fried Fish Portions and Sticks are also cut from frozen fish blocks, coated with a batter, breaded, partially cooked, packaged and frozen. Both portions and

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sticks are ready to heat and serve as purchased.

Pan Dressed Fish are usually small fish which have had their innards removed, their fins cut off and their heads chopped off. That which remains is usually fried in a pan.

TIMETABLE FOR COOKING FISH

Method of Cooking	Market Form	Amount for 6	Cooking Temperature	Approximate Cooking Time (minutes)
Baking	Dressed	3 pounds	350 F.	45 to 60
	Pan-Dressed	3 "	"	25 to 30
	Filletts or Steaks	2 "	"	20 to 25
	Frozen fried fish - Portions	12 portions (2 1/2 to 3 oz.)	400 F.	15 to 20
	Sticks	24 sticks (3/4 to 1 1/2 oz.)	400 F.	15 to 20
Charcoal Broiling	Pan-Dressed	3 pounds		10 to 16 (turning once)
	Filletts or Steaks	2 "		10 to 15
	Frozen Fried Fish - Portions	12 portions (2 1/2 to 3 oz.)		10 to 15
Charcoal Broiling	Sticks	24 sticks (3/4 to 1 1/2 oz.)		10 to 15
	Pan-Dressed	3 pounds	Moderate	10 to 16 (turning once)
	Filletts or Steaks	2 "	"	10 to 16 " "
	Frozen Fried Fish Portions	12 portions (2 1/2 to 3 oz.)	"	8 to 10 " "
Deep-Fat Frying	Sticks	24 sticks (3/4 to 1 1/2 oz.)	"	8 to 10 " "
	Pan-Dressed	3 pounds	350 F.	3 to 5
	Filletts or Steaks	2 "	350 F.	3 to 5
Oven-Frying	Frozen Raw - Breaded Fish Portions	12 portions (2 1/2 to 3 oz.)	350 F.	3 to 5
	Pan-Dressed	3 pounds	500 F.	15 to 20
	Filletts or Steaks	2 "	500 F.	10 to 15
Pan-Frying	Pan-Dressed	3 pounds	Moderate	8 to 10 (turning once)
	Filletts or Steaks	2 "	"	8 to 10 " "
	Frozen raw breaded or frozen fried fish - Portions	12 portions (2 1/2 to 3 oz.)	"	8 to 10 " "
	Sticks	24 sticks (3/4 to 1 1/2 oz.)	"	8 to 10 " "
Poaching	Filletts or Steaks	2 pounds	Simmer	5 to 10
Steaming	Filletts or Steaks	1 1/2 pounds	Boil	5 to 10

BASIC SHARKING

Part II

by Al Ristori

In part one of this series we discussed the basic requirements for sharking. Now that you're all set with the proper gear, we'll get into the techniques involved.

Many anglers spend money on chum and bait for sharks that would do honor to a tuna fishing expedition. I can't afford that sort of extravaganza and don't think it's necessary in any case. For four to five hours of drifting, I've found that one can of bunker chum and 25 pounds of whole bunker is quite sufficient. This, of course, necessitates chumming by hand, rather than with a chum bag. With a little breeze, a chum bag will empty out in two hours, meaning that you'll have to take two or three cans to fish the same amount of time you could with one can that was being ladled. If you have a wooden boat, that extra expenditure may make sense, but glass boats can be cleaned easily and the slop of ladling isn't really a problem if you keep at it during the day.

The first thing to do upon reaching the fishing area is to get the slick started. There's plenty of time to get the rigs out, as you're not likely to hook up until the slick is established. If you're chumming by hand, try to get partially defrosted chum before leaving. If that's not possible, then leave the chum in the sun and add some water to the top of the can on the way out. Just the opposite is the case if you're using a chum bag—in the event, it should be kept frozen solid or it will dissipate even faster.

Carry two extra buckets for chumming. One is partially filled with water to which scoops of chum are added. The other is filled with water and used for washing your hands any time they may get involved with the chum, as well as washing down the chumming area regularly. Chum fairly heavily at first and then settle down to a good steady pace. Sharks have an acute sense of smell and any crossing an unbroken slick should follow it right to the source. It isn't necessary to chum as heavily for sharks as for bluefish. For one thing, you aren't competing with anyone for the fish in your piece of the ocean. Beyond that, sharks usually aren't interested in the tiny scraps of ground chum, they're looking for the fish it's coming from.

One angler should always have the



Author with 405 lb. mako shark (N.Y.S. record), taken last July 4th on light tackle (Mitchell 624) from his Mako 22 at Montauk. (Will cover this in third installment.)

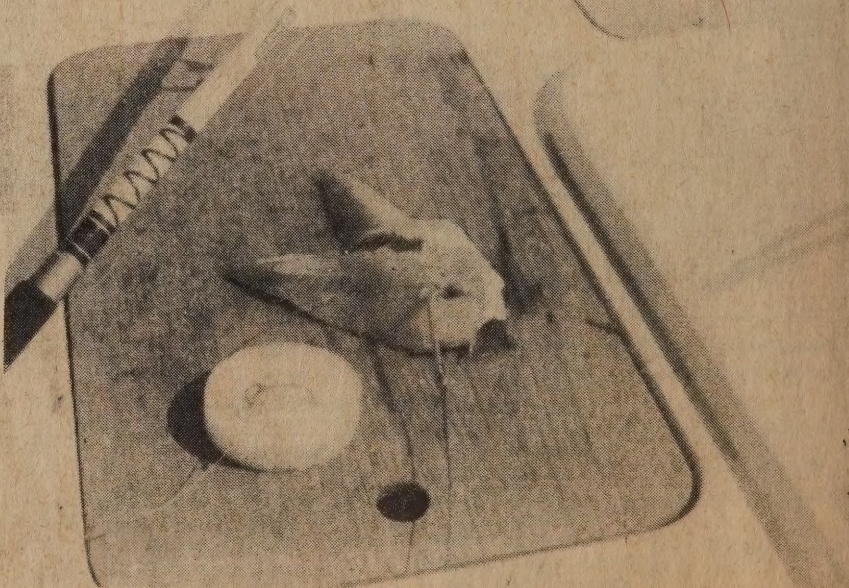


Illustration of hooked bunker fillet and float tied to line with rubber band.

task of keeping the slick intact. No great skill is involved—simply throw a ladle full of chum off the downward side of the

boat as soon as rippled water approaches. Chummed water is quite visible due to the slick that the oily

bunker creates. Many newcomers to the sport lose their slicks when they hook up as everyone forgets about chumming in the excitement. There's no point in letting a days work slip by for one fish, so be sure to keep up that slick. Most sharks will be fought from a drifting boat, but if you get one that must be run after, throw some floatable material into your slick so you can pick it up later.

The 25 pounds of whole bunker is used for both chum and bait. I use fillets from the bunkers for bait and chunk others for chum. Don't throw too many chunks! If you're too generous, sharks may lay back in the slick and wait for the food to come to them. Best bet is to throw a chunk and wait for it to disappear from sight before throwing another. If you run out of ground chum, the whole bunker can save the day. Simply cut them into small chunks or fillets and squeeze them in a bucket of water.

Sharks aren't often fussy about bait, though, like any other fish, they do have their moments. Day in and day out, I've found bunker fillets as effective a bait as any other I've used. It provides its own slick and allows for easy hooking as compared to whole baits. While sharks will often clip whole baits in half and never come back, they almost always engulf the fillets. Will sharks hit whole mackerel, squid, bluefish, ling, whiting, bunker, etc., in preference to bunker fillets? Quite possibly in instances where the fish are given a choice. However, if presented with only fillets will they refuse to bite? Frankly I doubt that would happen very often. Almost invariably, I've been able to get even sharks that were swimming around the boat and obviously not hungry to hit a fillet eventually. I've caught my share of makos with this bait and, a couple of years ago, my wife, Kathy, even took a 99½ lb. white marlin with bunker fillets. Of course, fillets from other oily fish are also great baits. Mackerel and herring are a little soft, but bonito and false albacore are perfect. You may be able to pick them up by trolling feathers on the way out. In any case, just hook the fillet once at the top so it will drift correctly without spinning. If you can catch a live ling or whiting off the bottom as you drift along, don't hesitate to give it a try. It's hard to beat live bait!

From my Mako 22, I generally drift three lines. The heaviest is set out about 100 feet, with the bait about 60 feet below the float. The next goes out about 40 to 60 feet, with the bait approximately 40 feet from the styrofoam. The final rig is my lightest (usually 20 lb.) and is placed in the outrigger holder. I strip about 50 feet of line from this rig and let it drift without a float. Surprisingly, it frequently gets much of the action and, indeed, is the rig that Kathy's big white marlin hit. There's nothing sacred about his set-up. It's just what I use. At times



Tackle Box Talk

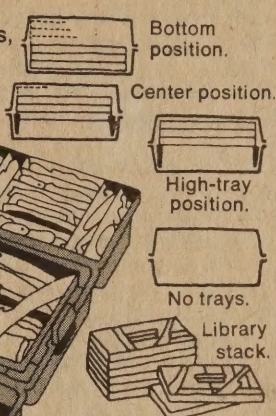
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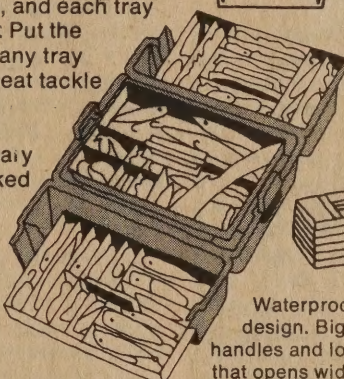
Bottom position.

Center position.

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very deep lines can be effective. If you're not doing a job with the surface lines, then by all means use a sinker and get a line down in the depths. If a good breeze picks up, your lines may all be floating on the surface. At that point, it would be wise to tie small sinkers to your leaders with rubber bands in order to keep the baits at a desirable depth.

Particularly during the early part of the season, check your lines frequently. Small sharks occasionally clip off baits, but bluefish are notorious for doing so. Blues are most abundant offshore in June and early July as they move into their inshore summering grounds. They usually pass through the slicks fairly rapidly and are normally found in very small schools (often loners). However,

they can slip a bait without moving the float and you may be embarrassed to find your lines empty after concluding that you hit a bad spot.

I set my reels up with a very light drag—just enough to prevent the line from "walking" out. Of course, the click is always used. If the drift is slow enough, the click alone will provide enough drag to prevent this from happening and you can then keep the star drag at the proper striking pressure. Lever drag reels are a big advantage when the wind is blowing as you can set the drag just tight enough to prevent line from slipping out and yet be ready to swing into your pre-set strike drag instantly.

Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

PORGY FISHING

Do you enjoy porgy fishing? If you're like me, I'm sure you do. Make no mistake about it, I'm a porgy fan from way back. It matters not if I fish from shore, a rented skiff, party, charter, or private boat, I've always found porgies to be loads of fun to catch—and scrappers to boot.

By that, I don't mean to imply porgies are a game fish in the true sense of the word; but I'm not too far off base when I say that sinker bouncers who catch porgies agree that this fish is indeed a fighting fish.

Especially will fishermen agree after tangling with a school of sea porgies. They can certainly give sinker bouncers a work-out, particularly so when caught on spinning tackle, as when fishing the Peconics. Yes, sir porgies are a worthwhile fish for any angler.

There was a time not too long ago when beginning about mid-May each season, millions of porgies invaded the coastal waters of New England, both shores of Long Island and the entire coast line of New Jersey. No one thought twice about it: come summer, and there were the porgies, literally paving the bottom, within reach of any sinker bouncer wanting them. As you can imagine, fishermen from these regions had a ball.

But then between 1966 and 1972, porgies began to diminish in numbers. No longer could anglers fill sacks and tubs to brimming. Occasionally, during these lean years, good catches were made by lucky anglers fishing the offshore wrecks and rock-littered bottoms for sea bass and blackfish, but for all general purposes, excellent porgy fishing appeared to be a thing of the past.

Then, three years ago, porgies began making a strong come-back, and last year proved to be quite good. Admittedly, there were many small fish around and the average was smaller than those caught in the "good years". But contrary to what many fishermen believe, this is a good sign. It means that porgy spawnings have been more successful, that porgy fishing will continue to be good, and each year will find porgies becoming larger and more plentiful.

Fishermen divide porgies into three groups; sand porgies, bay porgies and sea porgies. Sand porgies are great bait stealers, being the smallest of the lot and ranging from several ounces to just

under a half pound.

Fish around the half-pound mark are fun to catch on light tackle, but anything less than this is simply a nuisance. The problem here is that porgies are gregarious: fish of one size schooling together. Should the fisherman find schools of four or five-inch fish, let's say, there will be little variation in size. And not much fun, either.

Bay porgies weigh about three-quarters of a pound and afford much sport on light tackle. These are the kind usually found in the Peconics during summer and anglers often catch buckets full.

It's the large sea porgies, however, that experienced fishermen seek. These are the fish that make sinker bouncer's arm-weary. Unfortunately, few are taken in shallow water, with the exception of the spawning run into the Peconics just before the arriving onslaught of weakfish.

If the angler is interested in this more or less specialized fishing, and is willing to take a chance that enough fish will show to make it worthwhile, he must anticipate the run and be there on time.

Sea porgies do not linger long in this shallow area. When spawning is completed, these fish quickly recombine by feeding heavily for several weeks and then head for the deeper, offshore grounds. Here they take up summer housekeeping where conditions are more to their liking. On these offshore grounds, porgies average one to one and a half pounds, sometimes going to three, with an occasional four pounder, and better not uncommon.

It isn't difficult to get your share of porgies, whether they be medium-sized bay porgies or the larger sea porgies. Using proper tackle will not only get you more fish, you'll have more fun while doing so.

Light to medium-weight spinning tackle is ideal for bay porgies; by using it, the angler can really enjoy himself. Fill a matching spinning reel with ten pound test mono. Rig correctly and you're in business.

My reason for recommending ten pound test mono instead of let's say, six pound, isn't because any porgy you're apt to catch in the bays will snap it, but rather that you may tangle with a good-sized weakfish. If so, you'll want everything going for you. This happens more often than one would think—especially when fishing the Peconics.

For Peconic's famous sea porgies, I

wouldn't use anything lighter than medium-weight spinning or conventional tackle. But when out on party boats and fishing the ocean grounds, forget spinning tackle and use a conventional type medium weight rod and matching reel filled with good quality twenty pound test mono line.

You'll need this type tackle to combat stronger currents, which makes the use of heavy sinkers mandatory. Spinning tackle isn't made to handle these heavier weights, and too, the use of this light tackle is frowned upon by one and all when aboard these deep-water boats.

As with all bottom fishing, rigging is no problem and you shouldn't attempt to make it so. The popular deep-sea or two hook rig is the one to use when offshore. This is also known as the high-low rig and is the one you'll always see experienced fishermen using. This rig-up is quickly made by putting one hook a snell's length above the sinker, and the other far enough above to clear without tangling.

If you intend to fish in the bays, I believe it's best to tandem-tie two hooks and place them about one inch above the sinker. This allows the bait to be fully extended on bottom. To do this, tie in a three-way swivel, or form a two-inch dropper loop with a double-overhand knot.

To tandem-tie, fold the snell of one hook at its middle and place this fold through the knotted loop of the second hook. Take the second hook and run it through the fold of the first hook and pull up snug, securing with an overhand knot. Takes but seconds.

Because weakfish are always a possibility when fishing the bays, place a 3/0 Sproat on a three-foot leader four feet above the sinker and bait with a strip of squid three inches long.

There are two types of hooks I use for porgies. One is the Sproat style and the other is the Virginia, also known as the blackfish hook. One of the two, I believe the Virginia has the edge. This is an extremely sharp, hollow-point hook with a short bite and offset point and barb. Designed especially for blackfish, this hook seems to be just what the doctor ordered for the cunning, lightning swift, bait-stealing porgy.

Another good type is the beak, or claw style. I've used these occasionally when nothing else was available and have had good results with them. All these hooks are, or should be, regular shanked. If

you can avoid doing so, don't use long-shanked hooks for porgies. These seem to interfere with the fish getting the business end of the hook inside the mouth where it will do the fisherman the most good. You'll find porgies easily stripping the hook when long shanks are used.

Because porgies can strip a hook in jig time, sizes are extremely important. For bay porgies, a number six Sproat or number eight Virginia will do the trick.

For sea porgies, the fisherman has more leeway in hook selection. When using the Virginia-style, I find the number five works well. Some fishermen use a number six and feel they are better. I suppose it's all a matter of personal taste, but my preference is still the number five. If you prefer using a Sproat, claw, or beak-type hook, I find any size from 2 to 1/0 to be a good choice.

The points on Sproat hooks should be checked from time to time, especially when fishing areas where much fouling occurs. Either discard hooks with dulled or bent points, or touch up with a hook hone. Personally, I don't bother with a hone. Hooks are cheap and I find it pays to give battle-scarred hooks the deep-six.

Sinkers of course, should always be heavy enough to hold the rig on bottom. You'll catch few porgies if the bait is not down there where they can get it. What size depends upon tidal currents, but usually a five or six ounce bank sinker is okay.

Be sure to bring along an extra supply of terminal tackle. On board party boats, running out of sinkers and hooks is no great problem as you can always purchase what's needed. But when fishing privately, always make sure to have a generous supply. There's nothing more frustrating to a fisherman than to run out of hooks and sinkers just when the fish decide to go on a feeding binge.

I've caught bay porgies on a variety of baits including skimmer, hard and soft clam, bloodworm, sandworm, and squid. Of this generous selection, I've had my best luck with skimmer and sandworm.

When using skimmer in the bays, more fish will be caught if the bait is fresh from the shell. Frozen skimmer is okay if it contains no salt—which lately seems difficult to find. Should you have doubts about frozen skimmer, buy a dozen or two good sized chowder clams, or a pound or two of soft clams (steamers). Use the soft clam "necks" and save all shells for chum.

When using squid in the bays, cut narrow slices about an inch long and be sure at least a quarter-inch trails in the current. Worm fishermen should cut their bait into inch and a half lengths. This size seems to work best. As with squid, be sure some trails in the current.

As noted before, porgies are great bait

stealers—especially when using skimmer and hard clam. But you can cure them of this most times if you bait your hook in the following manner: Cut the clam into narrow, thin slices. Make sure some of the soft belly remains with each slice. This is what porgies particularly relish. Weave the hook through several times and be sure the point and barb is exposed near the belly. This is important as porgies do not have a large mouth.

The secret in hooking porgies with regularity is to strike the instant a bite is felt. Don't wait for the fish to return if you've missed him. He won't, as he's already cleaned the hook on the first pass like the expert he is. When the hook is exposed, though, nine out of ten times, it will be inhaled with the bait. This is the method used by every master fisherman I know.

When fishing aboard party boats, skimmer is the bait most often used, and the mate will have cut it into the correct size before you begin fishing. If you notice, you'll see the bait is cut exactly as described. Place on your hook exactly as mentioned and you'll catch porgies. Incidentally, you may see some fishermen using the clam "strings." These work well, too, but most times you'll have better results using the meatier part of the skimmer.

Party boats fish porgies in several ways. Some anchor over known mussel beds and chum with crushed skimmer. Some drift over hard packed sand when porgies are known to be in the vicinity. Some fish strictly over wrecks or rock-strewn bottom. I believe, though, that more large porgies are caught over wrecks than over any other type bottom. This is just my thoughts on the matter, however, and I'm the first to admit this is not a hard, fast rule. Some of the largest porgies I've ever caught came from the Tin Can Grounds off Rockaway.

Party boat skippers are past masters at the art of porgy fishing, and if fish are available, these professional fishermen will get them for you. But if you are on your own, the best way to find fish is to secure a chart of the area you intend on fishing and give it a close check.

Look for areas marked rocks, wrecks, or hard sand. Don't waste your time fishing over mud bottom. Gravel bottom will sometimes produce, but this is generally a hit or miss proposition.

For best results when anchored, chum with crushed skimmer or mussel over all types of bottom listed, except when wreck fishing. Wrecks have a sort of oasis in a desert effect, and you'll find fish gathered solidly around these areas, making the use of chum unnecessary. You may also draw unwanted fish such as bergalls.

I have caught porgies from the following areas in the New York Bight: Tin Can Grounds, Scallop Ridge, Mc Allister Grounds, Cholera Banks, New

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Ground, Glory Ground (the latter two often produce good porgy fishing during World Series time), Angler Banks, The Farms, The Subway Grounds south of Ambrose Tower, 17 Fathom Bank, and offshore Sea Bright, New Jersey (very good in September.)

The wrecks that have produced good porgy fishing for me are: Steel wreck, Coal wreck, C.O.D. wreck, Joe wreck, Iberia wreck (sometimes very large porgies here in early August), and the Stone Barge. I have tried the Howard wreck off Jones Beach, but never had much success here. Blackfish in the fall, yes; but not many porgies.

There are many similar areas spread about Long Island and along the New Jersey coast, areas which I've never fished, but I'm sure will produce porgies. As mentioned before, check your chart and you'll find some good producing areas. Of that I'm certain.

Porgy fishing is great fun and offers much excitement. If you've never tried it, you owe it to yourself to give it a try. Check the weekly reports in The Fisherman for up-to-date information. When you read that porgies are being caught in your local area, sharpen up your hooks and get going.

-You won't be sorry.



ADVANCED BLUEFISHING

Part Four-Whole Dead Baits

by Capt. Ron Onorato

The use of whole dead baits such as mackerel, herring, or bunker has become a specialized technique that is used with great success at the Eastern End. When the blues start running in good numbers, any number of boats can be seen drifting whole herring baits in the Race, or anchored and using the same method at the Cartwright grounds. Indeed, some of the largest bluefish on the Eastern Seaboard are taken from these areas each season. For the past four years, there has been at least one fish that was weighed in over 24 pounds. Teen size fish are considered rats, while fish around the 20 pound mark are regularly taken on a daily basis. It is my personal opinion that the next all tackle bluefish will come from the Cartwright grounds.

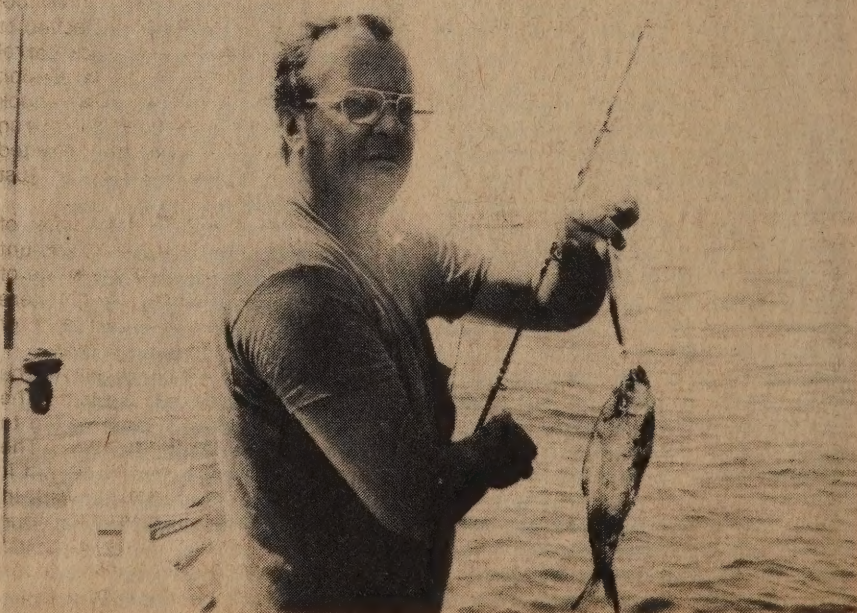
After reading and hearing so much about these famed grounds and their accompanying alligator bluefish, I had to give it a try. So armed with a load of frozen herring, we ventured forth to the Race. The Race is a huge tide rip located North of Montauk Harbor, and a fairly short run on a nice day. The rips and currents of the Race hold enormous quantities of bait and this in turn holds the bluefish. From late June through most of November, this area is just chock full of blues.

It was a clear day and the wind was light, so finding the rip was no problem. A small fleet with several party boats was on the scene when we arrived, and all hands were into fish. There's nothing to it we thought. Everyone started their drifts uptide of the rip and drifted back into it, with the hits coming just before and just after entering the turbulent water. Following suit, we lowered our singly hooked herrings on 4 oz. drails and waited for the blues to come running. About the only thing that went running was our baits as the strong tide kept the baits near the surface.

The next time down we went to 6 ounce drails, but this was too light also. Finally two 4 ounce drails clipped together did the trick and got the baits close to the bottom. Sure enough, hits right away, but that's all we had were hits, but no hookups. Upon retrieval, the herrings were cut off close to the head,



Author with bluefish taken on a diamond jig-herring rig.



George Oliver shows herring-diamond jig rig.

but somehow had not hooked the blues.

After much discussion and planning, we came up with a wire leadered hook that came out of the herrings back. Subsequent drifts now produced hook-ups and fish instead of the customary misses we had been experiencing. Fish came steadily as long as the rip was active. Once the rip died, so did the fishing. On the opposite tide, the fish took up feeding positions on the other side of the rip.

When fishing such areas as the Race or the Cartwright grounds, it became apparent that the fish for the most part situated themselves in positions from the bottom to as much as 30 feet above. On occasion, the fish may range the upper half of the water level and even break the surface, but this is not the rule.

The best chance of hooking into the fish comes when the bait is presented close to the bottom. Thus the need for some substantial weights comes into play. Also due to the fairly strong tides that run in this area, it becomes a necessity.

In order to handle the need for as much as 10 or 12 ounces of lead, anyone desiring to fish with such weight should have a pretty beefy outfit. Spinning tackle is pretty much out of the question because of the limber rods involved. Any conventional outfit in the medium weight class will do. A matching reel of 20 pound mono should round out the outfit. Heavier mono creates added water resistance and may call for the use of added weight. If you're really sporting go to 12 or 15 pound mono and really have some fun.

About the most tricky part of this fishing is the proper rigging of the bait in such a manner that the bluefish has a reasonably good chance of being hooked rather than just biting the expensive and often hard to get bait.

I took the hint from the party boats that fish the area and made up some rigs similar to the ones they use. It's really pretty simple. Take an 8 ounce drail (trolling sinker) and to this crimp a six inch piece of steelon wire leader material to one end. Use 45 or 60 pound test leader material. To the other end of the leader crimp on a 8/0 Eagle Claw hook. The finished product is a drail with a hook hanging some six inches below it. Basically, a sinker of the same weight can be substituted for the expensive drail. You can take the steelon leader and attach it to the eye of the sinker. The terminal end of the mono line that you are using can also be attached to the same eye. This rig is not quite as efficient as the drail rig though.

Though almost any whole dead bait will work on these rigs. Frozen herring, mackerel, and bunkers are the most popular used. These baits are fished whole regardless of size. When rigging them on the drails, care must be taken so

that when you're finished, the bait isn't bunched up. The bait is attached by first inserting the hook through the eyes of the bait and pulling the leader through. The hook is then pulled down the length of the bait and inserted somewhere near the tail region. Properly done, the bait will have a bit of a curve to it, but will not bunch up.

Another sure fire rig that may be better than the drail, was discovered accidentally. The blues were particularly vicious this day at the Cartwright grounds and they had eaten through our entire supply of drails. All we had left were 8 and 10 ounce diamond jigs. Rather than quit, we simply attached a short wire leader with a small hook to the open eye of the diamond jig. We then inserted the treble hooks through the lips of the herring, and ran the smaller hook through the tail of the bait. With the added flash of the diamond jig, the herring was almost unnecessary. If a blue managed to bite around the hooks or tear the bait from the hooks, they would hit the diamond as it was retrieved. As a matter of fact, on one occasion, we landed two blues on the same rig. Apparently one blue had hit the tail hook of the rig, and while being played, had the diamond jig hit by another blue. The fish are really that vicious out there.

A slightly varied rig can be made by using a three foot leader after the drail and then placing the hooks and steelon leader. This rig seems to work a little better if there is a stiff tide running and the boat is anchored. It should be noted here, that while fishing the rips of the Race, the boat will always be drifting, while at the Cartwright grounds, the preferred method is anchoring. Getting back to the rig, you will need a three foot leader of 30 or 40 lb. mono. Attached to the end of the leader, is a black barrel swivel with an 8 inch length of steelon leader with an 8/0 Eagle Claw hook crimped to the end. The hook is then run through the eye of the bait and inserted somewhere near the shoulder or just behind the dorsal fin.

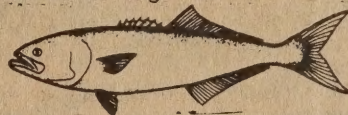
The biggest thing to this type of fishing, is giving the fish a good amount of time so that he can swallow some of the bait. The fish that are caught here are really quite big, and they sort of swallow the bait as they chop away.

As mentioned earlier, the blues for the most part will be lurking close to the bottom. You will usually drop the rig to the bottom until you feel it bump. The rig is then cranked in a few feet so that it is clear of the bottom. The reel is kept in free spool, but you have to keep your thumb on the spool so that the bait stays put. There is no question when a hit comes, it feels as if you've got a truck steam rolling with your bait. All you have to do now is lift your thumb from the spool and let the fish run with the

bait for a few feet and then engage the reel. If the blues aren't too big, they may hit the bait and drop it, and then pick it up again. You will just have to wait until you get a good runoff before attempting to set the hook.

If you get no hits with the bait close to the bottom, don't be afraid to take it 20 or 30 feet off the bottom. Sometimes the blues will range that far off. You can often be surprised when fishing either of these areas. In the Race, big stripers often sneak in ahead of the blues and may take the herring bait. At the Cartwright grounds, there are big rays and sharks that sometimes grab the baits. Sometimes big sea bass move in on the grounds. Last September, I took a 5 pound sea bass on a piece of herring that some blue left on the hook when he hit it. We switched to smaller hooks and strips of herring and began catching 2 and 3 pound sea bass. The only problem was that the big blues would cut most of them in half before we could get them anywhere near the surface.

The chance for some trophy bluefish is greater in these two areas than along the rest of their range. Though this type of bluefishing may be the most technical, it is surely one of the most productive and consistent for large fish.



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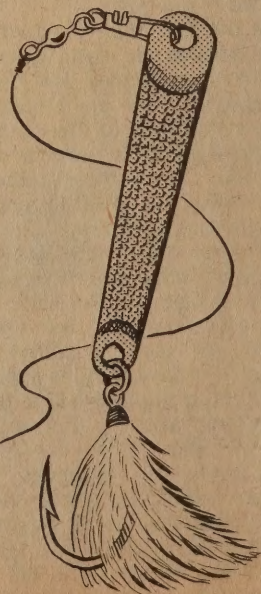


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BUTTERFISH AND MACKEREL
ARE THE USUAL FRESH FROZEN BAIT USED FOR BLUES IN THE CHUM SLICK.

MACKEREL CHUNKS
ARE OFTEN USED FOR BAIT AND GROUND UP FOR CHUM.

BUNKER
CHUM SLICKS IN THE BAY ALSO ATTRACT OTHER FISH IN THE AREA.

7-0 HOOK AND WIRE LEADERS FOR OFFSHORE BLUES.

3-0 TO 5-0 HOOK WITH WIRE LEADER USED IN BAY.

BLUEFISH EAT ABOUT ANYTHING INCLUDING EACH OTHER. LIVE BAITS ARE BEST AND FRESH BAITS A MUST. SMALL FISH, CRABS AND WORMS ARE ALL GOOD.

PLUGS WORK WELL BUT TAKE A BEATING FROM THE BLUES' TEETH.

FOR TROLLING, JIGS OF ALL KINDS ARE POPULAR - COMBINED WITH PORKRIND AND EXTRA HOOK.

YOUR ARTIST-REPORTER HAS CAUGHT BLUEFISH CASTING, TROLLING AND CHUMMING - IN THE BAY, OFFSHORE AND SURFCASTING - ON ALL LURES AND ALL BAIT, BUT MY BIGGEST BLUES WERE BOATED IN LATE FALL OFFSHORE, 90 FT. OF WATER, ON THE BOTTOM ON CODFISH CLAMBAIT!

SOME FACTS ON GATEWAY

by Ed Haring

The Statement for Management and Environmental Assessment for Gateway National Recreation Area dated April 1976 contains 346 pages and is as thick as the telephone directories of many counties. It is a condensed report to the public of some 15 months of research, public meetings, workshops, and studies. BY NO MEANS IS IT A FINAL PLAN.

Like any other book it should be read from the beginning. The first two pages are letters from the Director of the National Park Service and Joe Antosca, Gateway's Superintendent asking the help of groups or individuals in formulating the plans for the Parks development. It is unfortunate that a communication problem does exist, for little publicity appears in the local newspapers. Between pages 321 and 327 there are two full pull out pages listing groups and organizations taking part in the meetings and workshops. The only fishing club I recognized was the Farragut. The park personnel I spoke to claimed they were disappointed by the lack of interest shown by anglers. It was only after some concerned person noticed that on Page 271 a proposal was made to ban fishing in Jamaica Bay—that's when the fat hit the fire and panic spread.

I hope the party that noticed it was replaying the part of Paul Revere. It did wake some people up but whether it will stir them enough to take part in future planning is another matter. Will the usual apathy take place after the initial outburst of indignation?

On a few occasions I tried to discuss some matters pertaining to Gateway with a couple of local tackle dealers and they showed about as much interest as if it were located in Outer Mongolia. It would seem that the people who make their living from fishing in the area would be primarily concerned, and make every effort to keep the customers abreast of meetings and development. IT ISN'T TOO LATE TO START NOW!

In my opinion the chances of fishing being prohibited in Jamaica Bay as a whole is as likely as Jones Beach being invaded by little purple people from outer space. In fact, anyone taking the trouble to read the report will find that many suggestions are being made for upgrading fishing in the area...for instance the restocking of native species

of fish and utilizing the old seaplane ramp for boat launching. Bear in mind that the people assigned to creating the Recreation Area are professionals from all over the National Park Service. They have a unique problem, for this is the first undertaking of its kind in so densely populated an area. Every one wants a slice of the pie and they are going to try to satisfy us in every way possible.

For some reason whenever an environmental problem comes up the first one to be the whipping boys are the bird watchers. On the whole they're no better or worse than fishermen. They enjoy a day in the fresh air and bother no one. There are fanatics in both groups that would like to have everything their way and foresee nothing but doom and ruination unless their gospel is followed. In a way the lunatic fringe often helps by alerting less interested members into a beneficial but less drastic course of action.

I have been to the Wild Life Area on many occasions. It is one of the few unspoiled natural areas in the Metropolitan area. There are two lakes and trails winding around them. Thousands of people come to stroll, relax and observe the wildlife. It is located on one of the major flyways for migratory birds. There is no litter of any kind on its pathways. I cannot tell the difference from a flatchested dowager or curly billed whiffenpoof but I can see why its devotees are anxious to preserve what they have.

What I can't see is how motorboats would have any effect on it. Planes roar in and out of JFK Airport every few seconds. Since it straddles Cross Bay Blvd the roar of traffic is constant. In fact many birds have taken up residence at the airport itself causing several real and near accidents. No one has been able to effectively drive them off. so the boat noises presents no valid argument.

On the other hand, the area is surrounded mostly by mud flats which are high and dry at low tide so who in their right mind would want to fish there? Boats do pass from Broad Channel or the inner bay around the airport heading for more productive areas but seldom have I seen any actively fishing...especially not charter or party boats. The whole thing sounds like a tempest in a teapot and could easily be resolved but not unless we are willing to take some active part in the planning.

I will not enter into the question of harvesting bait. There are too many pros and cons. Perhaps a study of how the towns on Long Island regulate this activity would produce an equitable solution.

If you have any concrete and workable suggestions why not follow Joe Antosca's invitation and present them at one of the meetings or by mail. The address is Gateway National Recreation Area, Headquarters Building #69, Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11234. Do it now or grumble later.



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MONTAUK REPORT

by Scott Simons

The fishing out at Montauk remains excellent in all departments and the fishing has settled into the normal summer patters. Codfishing at Coxes Ledge remains excellent with quite a few big cows being taken daily. Bluefish are in heavy all over the area, including the Submarine Buoy, the rips around the Point itself and all along the southside, particularly in the evening. Striped bass are spotty during the day, but are being taken on plugs along the south side in the evening and trolling plugs at night by local sharpies like Captain Frank Braddick of the charterboat **Hurry Up**. Fluke still super-excellent at the North Rips, Shagwong Reef, Gin Beach, Can 5 and on the south side under the "guns" in 60 feet of water on incoming tide. Porgy fishing excellent at Gardiner's Island and in strong in the areas between the lighthouse and Great Eastern Buoy. Porgies have still yet to peak, as they have yet to move into their summer haunts along the south side of the Point. Hugh quantities of small and medium seabass are on all the rocky areas east of the Lighthouse. Offshore fishing south of the Point remains excellent for sharks, all the blue sharks you want, plenty of makos in the 200 lb. class and on occasional brown and the first tiger shark of the season was also taken on Saturday by a private boat out of the Star Island Yacht Club. No reports of swordfish or white marlin either being seen or taken.

Captain Brad Glas of the **Helen II** reports the fluke fishing remains as good as it ever was in the North Rips and east to Midway. The fish are all good size with doormats taken daily and throwbacks very rare. Large spearing or sandeels have been the hot baits recently.



George Mack, his son Barry and his wife Phyllis with their catch of 14 bass up to 31 pounds, all taken on Ava diamond jigs aboard Capt. John DeMaio's charterboat **Vivienne**.

Bob at the cove marina reports that he took a busman's holiday on Sunday evening and fished the south side around Caswells with Stripper Swiper poppers. In a short time he took six small bluefish and five bass, all over 20 lbs. and up to 45. Fluke fishing remains unreal, with the worst day Sunday when the boats "only" had 40 to 50 medium size fluke for a days fishing. Best areas have been the North Rips on outgoing water and under the guns or radar station in 60 feet of water on incoming water.

This Friday the Long Island Fisherman's Grady White center console boat came across Captain Frank Braddick's charterboat **Hurry Up** just as he was gaffing a 42 lb. striped bass at the crack of dawn. Frank said that he had a total of ten big bass taken that night trolling big Stan Gibbs plugs, so there are some big bass around. "The bass fishing during July has been much better than June", according to Frank. He said he is booking up in August for offshore fishing, but will still accept charters for bass around the August full moon on those days that he isn't booked for offshore.

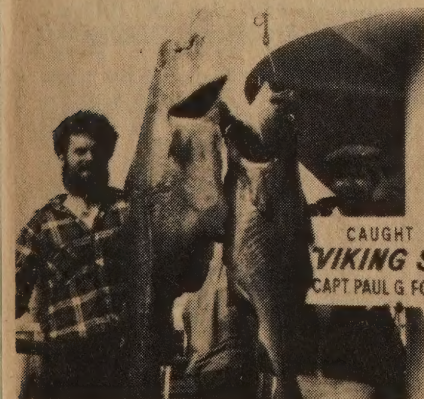
Captain Ron Onorato of the charterboat **Ombre** called to say that he has just returned from fishing the Cuttyhunk area with good success and asks us to say that he has some good summer charter dates open with good weekend spots during August and September.

Captain Frank Macaro of the charter boat **Free Spirit** called to say that he took a charter on Saturday 40 miles south of the point. Swordfishing was poor but he did chum up and boat 8 blueshark in the 120 pound class. Frank says that a big white shark (800 to 1000 pounds est.) came into the slick. He put a whole bluefish on the flying gaff. The fish came to it but wouldn't hit and finally sounded. The **Free Spirit** is starting 2 day sleep over trips and is taking reservations now for these special shark trips. On Sunday there was inshore action at the Submarine Buoy for bluefish and then the No. Rips for fluke up to 4 pounds. An inshore smorgasboard, says Frank.

Captain Buddy Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** called to report that he has been fishing off Gardiner's Island for porgies and doing a great job on them. Thursday was one of the better days with the anglers pulling in between 900 and 1000 fish of odd mixed sizes up to 1 1/2 pounds. Best baits have been clam and/or worms.

Captain Lester Behan of the **Peconic Queen III** said that the codfishing remains excellent at Coxes Ledge and there are plenty of big cows mixed in the catch. To qualify for the pool you need a cod of well over 30 pounds to be in the running. Night bluefishing at the Submarine buoy has really skyrocketed and the herring baits are murdering the big choppers. On Thursday night the anglers asked the Captain if they could sail home early because they were arm weary. Low-hook on the boat was about 15 bluefish...the only limit to an anglers catch was the limit of his stamina.

Captain Dick Vigilant of the charter



Shown here are the pool winners on the **Viking Star** on a recent trip. Al Rivera, with a 42 lb. cod and John Lupo with a 51 lb. cod.



George Bley of Middle Village caught this 10 pound fluke aboard the **Helen II** out of Montauk.



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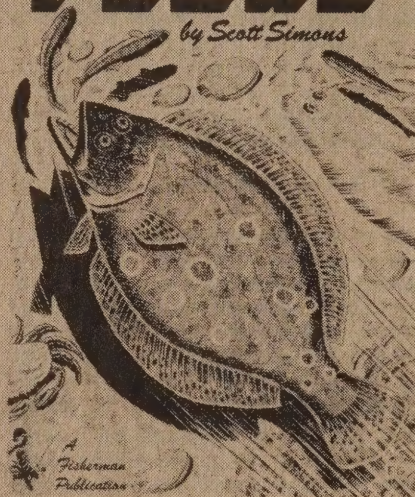
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Don and Marge Olson, Bill and Peg Wohler with 33 fluke up to 7 1/2 pounds and seabass caught aboard Capt. Jerry Kieffer's Barracuda at Montauk.

boat **Triton II** has been trolling for bluefish south of Block Island and at the Submarine Buoy with the finest kind of results. Fishing has been fantastic with the blues ranging up to 15 pounds. On Saturday 75 big bluefish came over the rails and on a Sat. eve trip 22 were taken. One day during the week was spent offshore shark fishing, and the party managed 5 blue sharks and one dusky, all in the 100 lb. class. On Sunday, it was a fluke charter, and the party aboard swung more than 120 fluke up to 8 pounds over the rails.

Captain Pete Van Alst of the charterboat **Modar I** reported that the shark fishing south of the point is still unbelievable with a mixture of blues, browns, dusky's and mako's. Pete also had a bit of bad news for us that he asked us to pass on to our readers. Last Tuesday, Captain Frank Mundus of the famous **Cricket II** had a stroke and at last word was in intensive care with no visitors allowed. Frank was the original angler to start chartering for sharks or "monster fishing" before anyone else saw the potential of chartering for them. In fact, it was on a charter aboard the **Cricket II** that the unknown Peter Benchly got the story idea for the best-selling book and box office bonanza "Jaws." Let's hope that works out okay and the Captain is back at the helm in the near future. P.S. This week a new book is being published about Frank, entitled "Monster Man: Frank Mundus," by Boggs. Look for a review of this entertaining book in The Long Island Fisherman in the near future.

Captain Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** confirmed the excellent shark fishing offshore, with catches of 10 or more sharks not uncommon. Bluefishing at the Submarine buoy is also excellent and constantly improving.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** reported that the offshore shark fishing is still superb and the inshore fluke fishing is still excellent. Capt. Marty Shapiro of the "Knight Cap" boated a 208 lb. mako shark and released several blue sharks on Saturday. The "Lady Grace" took a 105 lb. tiger shark on Saturday in 200 feet of

water south of the Point. Captain Dave McMahon of the charterboat "Marie II" has been doing a good job on his half day charters for blues and bass. On Saturday the party took 12 striped bass and 6 bluefish. The "Teaser", captained by Dr. Longworth, took one bass of 15 pounds and about 20 bluefish fishing the southside between Ditch Plains and the Town on umbrella rigs in the early eve hours. The "Mary Jac Q" went fluking recently in the No. Rips and took one of the largest doormats to come into Montauk this year, a 13 1/2 pounder taken by J. Molinari. The "Friendship II" got a mess of fluke on Sunday in the No. Rips.

Carol at the **Montauk Marine Basin** called to tell us of another one of those great Charlie Nappi catches of fluke. Fishing on the private boat "Lady Shazaam" with Ken Bowman, and Peter and Linda Ermalinski, a total of 60 fluke ranging from 3 to 11 1/2 pounds were taken. Charlie had two doormats of 11 1/2 pounds each, Ken had an 11 pounder and Pete and Linda each had fish of 10 pounds. Charlie said that large fluke followed the baits to the surface many times before actually hitting. Fishing was at a few of the Nap's secret fluking spots at and around Block Island.



Joe Tripi and son, Mark had a catch of 16 bass on Ava jigs and 8 weeks taken on bucktails aboard John DeMaio's charterboat Vivienne.

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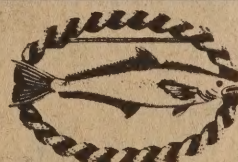
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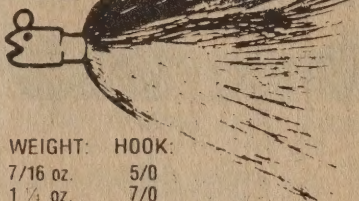
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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

PROMISED LAND

Art of Promised Land Fishing Station said fluke fishing is somewhat stronger this weekend. The boats were using spearing, sand eels with squid or belly baits at Can 2 by Hicks Island. Just about half are keepers and there are several fish in the 3 to 6 lb. class every day. Porgies have been both good and bad and have not settled in as yet. Finding the right area and using bunker chum will result in better catches of up to 2 bushels a boat. Cartwright and the Bell buoy both have good schools of fish. On Friday Frank Rama and Art Dulik had fast and fabulous fluke fishing at Can 2 using sand eels with squid. They caught over 140 fish and kept about half some went to 5 lbs.

NOYAC

Harry & Barbara Smith of the Noyac Marina on Sunday fished off the monestary and took 13 weaks to 4 lbs. They fished the last of the outgoing tide using squid. Anglers have been bringing in both kingfish and many porgies.

SHINNECOCK

Altenkirch's Tackle reports increasing weak fishing catches at night by Cows Neck using live snappers. Shinnecock Bay has lots of small fluke and the keepers are mostly 2 lbs. These are taking Squid and shiners. Umbrella rig trolling at the Shinnecock Inlet has brought in big blues to 13 lbs. Drifting the same area at night using live bunker has brought in several big striped bass in the 30 to 35 lb. class. Off shore has had some decent tuna catches. One in particular of 140 lbs. was taken by the boat As Ever. Off shore fishing has also been good for bluefish and blue sharks.

Captain Clark Bellows Sr. of the Captain Clark boats called to tell us that the summer run of weakfish is now on and during the week they have been taking between 50 to 75 of the 2 pound class fish a day. Best area has been between Jessups and Nassau Point in the deeper water of 60 to 65 feet. Worms and/or squid for bait while drifting. The porgy fishing has also been improving, with fishing on Wednesday and Thursday excellent and fair over the weekend. Best areas for these little scrappers has been the local wrecks east of Robbin's Island and off Nassau Point. Clark noted that the west end of the bay between Robbin's Island and Jamesport is now starting to show signs of life, as usually happens about this time of year.

HAMPTON BAYS

Tony's Fishing Station reports fluke and flounder are running very good at



Lance Scharf of Howard Beach caught this 5 lb. 10 oz. fluke off buoy 36. The fish was taken on sand eel and squid combo. Photo courtesy of Silly Lilly Fishing Station.

his place, with most of the action at buoy 20 for fluke. It's going to be hard to beat the 14 pound 3 ounce fluke caught from Tony's in June by Dave Grant. 3/4 of the fluke are keepers, running 15 to 16 inches. Good flounder fishing, ranging from 1 to 2 pounds on worms at buoys 20, 1 and 2.

Corr's Fishing Station reports fluke fishing at Shinnecock Inlet and off the Coast Guard Station was slower this past week due to poor early morning tides. Look for good fishing this coming week. Come early and fish with a sand eel shiner combo or live killies. Fish Shinnecock Inlet on the rising tide or the Coast Guard Station and West of the Ponoquoque Bridge on the falling tide. Capt. Al Veltmen of the charter boat C M B had three charters this past week for blues and they all did well.

EAST HAMPTON

Three Mile Harbor Fishing Station reports great fishing on porgies and fluke. Porgies of 2 lbs. and better are at either Crow Shoal or from buoy 11 to 6. Catches go from 4 to 1 bushel using clam bait. Fluke are from Cartwright Island to #2 buoy off Goff Point. There are a good number of keepers and some go to 4 lbs. according to Bill.

MORICHES BAY

Al at Hi-Way Fishing Station said the fluke fishing was 50 - 50 as regards keepers. All baits with squid are good at buoys 36 to 39. Flounders that are not too big were taken south of buoy 36. Silly Lilly Fishing Station reports the



Mike Zurl, 14, caught this 10 lb. blue on a Salty Dog while fluke fishing by buoy 42. Mike also caught this 15 lb. striper on a live bunker in the inlet. Photo by Skidmore's Fishing Station.

fluke fishing has been good all week but on Sundays the strong winds kept the catches down. Anglers have had up to 25 keepers of nice size and the best is fishing both sides of the channel at buoys 36 to 39 and off the sand bars at #35. Killies or sand eels with squid are a 50 - 50 proposition as far as bait. Some flounders were taken at buoys 34 on clams.

Ben at Tadsen's Fishing Station said that except for Sunday fluke fishing has been very good all week. There were no door mats taken but there were a couple of 5 pounders. Most fish are of good size but there are still a lot of throws.

MASTIC BEACH

Stiriz's Fishing Station reports weakfish up to 8 pounds from buoys 6 thru 12 with incoming water and squid on the bottom working best. Blowfish, though spotty, have been caught at buoy 19. For fluke try buoys 19 thru 21 with squid, sandeels, spearing or big smelts that Gary has in stock. Fluke have been taken this past week up to 5 pounds, 10 to 14 per boat average. Blue claw crabs are in heavy in traps or nets. Eels and snappers are there, but no bass news to speak of. Lots of bluefish in the 10 pound category roughly 10 miles out.

SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station reports that on Saturday, two anglers returned with 43 weeks from between buoys 28 and 29, ranging from 4 to 7 pounds on Salty Dogs tipped with squid or on sandeels on both tides. Kingfish are hitting clam baits at buoy 5.

South Bay Fishing Station reports 3 to 4 pound weakfish, 1 pound kingfish and about 2 pound fluke all biting nicely and the best just 100 yards south of buoy 30 on drifted squid. Blue claws can be had off the town dock as can small snappers.

Captain Bill of the charterboat **Friendship** reports very good fluking, some-

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Sal Ombres of Massapequa called in a description of his car to become this week's L.I.F. Contest Winner. He has been sent a check for \$30 and has chosen a fishing trip for two aboard the Speedy VI for his prize.

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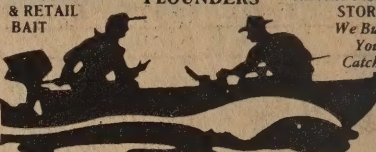
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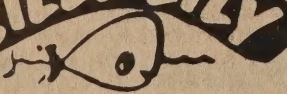
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Al Fusco, 16, fishing aboard the
"Lady Irene" out of Bayshore
landed this 39 lb. 3 oz. bluefin on a
red feather southeast of Fire Island
Inlet in 140 ft. of water. Photo
courtesy of Augie's B and T.

times a little spotty, but big fish
involved, with the biggest towards the
Sayville area growing smaller down
towards the inlet. Lots of blues from 12
to 14 pounds on his shark trips, which he
is taking southeast of the inlet. A 125
pound blueshark was taken on Saturday
in 60 feet of water, 140 degrees out.

OAKDALE

Howie's Fishing Station reports good
mixed bags of fluke, weaks, and kingfish
at buoy 4 on squid and sandeels.

OAKBEACH

The Store reports good catches of 8 to
12 pound choppers about 15 miles
offshore and also a lot of blues in the
evenings from the bridge on west on the
flood from the beaches and on boats.
Blues are hitting Hopkins, plugs, your
mother-in-law's shoe, most anything.
Weakfish are around also, up to 8
pounds. Fluking is steady in the inlet
with lots of shorts but also a lot of
keepers. An 11 pound fluke was taken on
a plastic shrimp tipped with squid from
the Sea Wall south of The Store. Blue
claw crabs, fluke and snappers are in the
back, with only scattered stripers.

EAST ISLIP

Wet-A-Line Bait and Tackle reports
good bluefishing in West Channel on
sandeels, blues biting hungrily at the BA
buoy on bunker chum and butterfish,
while weakfish are falling to Redfins at
Cherry Grove.

BAY SHORE

Carl at Smokey's Bait and Tackle says
that Warren Smith on Saturday while
drifting off Heckscher got 14 weakfish on
squid strips, fish going to 6 pounds.
Offshore, blues are being taken south-
east of the inlet from 80 to 130 feet of
water. Good sized weakfish are being
taken in the inlet on flood tide on
sandworms and white pussy cat lures.
Stripers are being caught at the Sore
Thumb in early morning and late
afternoon on sandworms, Redfins and
Atom plugs. Bonita have been spotted at
the head buoy on Friday. Local fluking is
good on squid and spearing combos from
the inlet to Kismet on flood tide. Crabs
remain super and are being taken along
with snappers from Bay Shore Marina
dock, with snappers being very small. A
few weaks and blues have been taken off
the dock at night on Pussy Cats and Salty
Dogs.

Mainland Marine Bait and Tackle
reports the big thing is fluke in West
Channel and at West Island on sand
eels.

CAPTREE

Captain Sandy of the Bullet reports
killing the blues both day and night off
Barnegat Inlet. Most fares are going
home with at least a sack full of fish. Day
and nights seem to be equally as good,
with fish 6 to 11 pounds. They are
drifting, not anchoring. The tile trips so
far have been successful with plenty
more tile waiting to be caught, reports
Jay Porter. Come on down says Jay for
the tile and blues.

The Captain Scotty reports very, very
good fluking on the outside, fish running
2 to 4 pounds, with high hook normally
12 to 15 keepers. Fares are averaging 6
to 7 keeper fluke per man, taken on
killie/squid combos. The blues are hit
and miss, with along ride involved, but
when they connect the fishing is very
good, choppers running from 8 to 12

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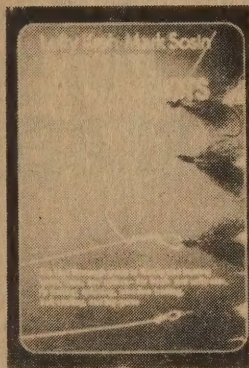
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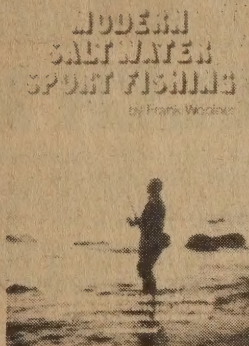
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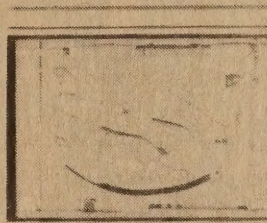
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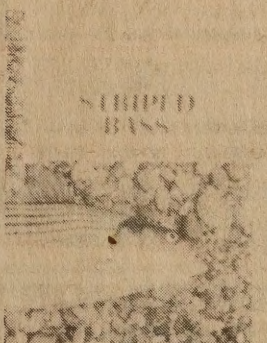
by C. Boyd Pfeiffer

A concise handbook on how to make your own tackle and also repair it. Covers lure making, rod racks, rod building, buoys, leaders, spreaders, sinker molds, gaffs, bucktails, tin squids, soft plastic lures and much much more. Complete glossary of manufacturers. 332 pages, illus.

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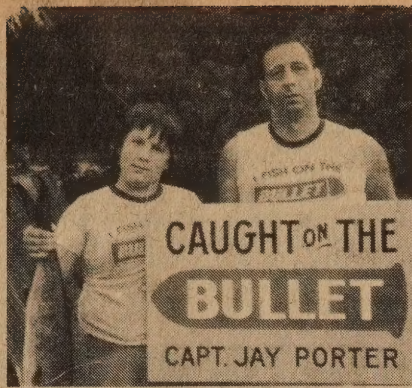
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FISHING REPORTS

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fishing information, read
Frank Keating's fishing
column in the L.I. Press
seven days a week.



Danny Dietrich and son, Keith from
Brentwood with one of the 68 blues they
caught last week on the "Bullet".

pounds.

The charter boat **Lady Ann** reports
Friday and Saturday night each pro-
duced roughly 100 hungry choppers
coming over the rail for 25 passengers
each night. Captain Neil says while not
fantastic action, there was a good steady
pick. Friday's day trip for fluke saw 144
keeper fluke while Saturday's day trip
resulted in 112 keepers. Sunday was
down due to poor fishing conditions, and
only 61 keepers came over the rail. Neil
is fishing inside and outside, smelts
working best in the ocean, while killies
and squid work best in the bay. Fluking
is very good and bluefishing is consis-
tent. What more can you ask?

The open boat Captain Ben Litwin
reports that the fluking has been tough
lately, with a lot of small fish around and
not too many keepers. The average
catches have only been a few to five
keepers per man. On Sunday a big
doormat fluke of 82 lbs. was taken that
copped the pool. Best area has been
around the Robert Moses Bridge.

BABYLON

Augie's Bait and Tackle informs us
that the Babylon Tuna Club Bluefish
Contest held on Sunday saw a 13 pound,
seven ounce blue as the winner. Anglers
are averaging 5 to 35 blues, 6 to 13
pounds taken from 65 to 85 feet of water.
This was between the water tower and
the lighthouse. Those that ran west got
skunked. William Jordan of No. Babylon
had an 8 pound 10 ounce fluke on a smelt
in front of Frank and Dick's on Sunday
afternoon, in all that boat traffic. A
couple of makos in the 150 lb. class were
weighed in over the weekend. A 2 lb. 15
oz. trigger fish was caught at the
Lighthouse. Fluking is good to the tune
of 10 to 15 keepers per boat now for
those who know what they are doing.
Snappers and crabs are good off the
dock. Augie's super strong live killies
that he now has in stock should be
sampled.

Babylon Fishing Station reports that
blues are averaging 11 pounds at 140
feet of water due south of the inlet. A lot
of blues. Fluke and weaks at the first
clam buoy and Snake Hill Channel, but
throwback the dwarves. Killies and
squid are the ticket. Weakfish on Salty

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Chuck Eng caught this 9 lb. bass
off Gilgo early Saturday morning.
Photo courtesy of Smokey's Bait
and Tackle.



Frank Gabriel caught this 14 lb. 2 oz. weakfish on a small pink shrimp lure and 8 lb. test at the lighthouse. Photo courtesy of Jonas Bait and Tackle.

Dogs up to 3 pounds are being taken in Snake Hill.

LINDENHURST

Captain Tom on the **Sea Horse** reports that while Sunday was on the poor side due to the tide versus wind situation, Monday thru Saturday saw very good fluking with not many shorts. Lots of 2 to 4 pound fluke came over the rail with the largest for the week a 6 pounder, on sand eels, spearing and squid. If you are interested in getting in on some night crabbing on an open boat basis, call Capt. Tom. See his ad for Ph. No.

Duke's Bait and Tackle reports crabbing very good on the north side of the bay on killies and bunker in traps. Netting is slow. Will improve. Small snappers are around and that scene will improve also shortly. A few weakfish have been taken from the Wellwood Avenue Dock, evenings. Fluke has been best from the inlet to the old Fire Island Lighthouse and in Dickerson's Channel by West Island. This has been on sandeels and squid. Some big weakfish off the Thumb in 35 feet of water off Cedar Beach. Small live bunker and wire lined trolling of bucktails is doing it. Lots of 5 to 8 pound blues just off Moses Park in 50 feet of water. Larger blues at Cholera and the Mud Hole. Bass action very slow right now. Things are quiet offshore, except for excellent sharking from 140 to 180 feet of water, mostly southeast of the inlet. 1 1/2 to 3 pound sea bass in Oakbeach Cove adjacent to the Sore Thumb. For bass fish nights and deep and with patience.

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Jonas Bait and Tackle reports good fluke and weakfish at the Sore Thumb on Tuesday and Wednesday on trolled and

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Some of the 65 fluke caught on the Free Spirit charterboat by Larry Bauer and Co. Capt. Frank Maccaro advised that the fluke were all in the 4-5 lb. class with a few over 7 pounds.

jigged parachutes, with a few ten and fourteen pound fluke mixed in. East Fox Creek produced weakfish on Friday morning on Bridgeport Diamong Jigs, Salty Dogs, and Hopkins. Amityville Bay is producing small weaks and blues in the mornings from Amityville Cut to Copiague Hole on diamong jigs and small Hopkins. Kings at the Copiague Beach from the pier. Bluefishing is good offshore, while blue claw crabs can be scooped from docks and boats in good numbers. Stripers were slow this past week. In the early part of the week, one angler drifting eels from Democratic Point up to the bridge had 2 stripers in the 30's and 2 in the 40's on live eels, outgoing tide.

SEAFORD

The charterboat **Hustler** was out sharking at 150 degrees out of Jones in 115 feet of water while no sharks came into the slick, blues from 8 to 10 pounds did oblige. There are still choice dates available for shark, blues and fluke.

Captain Eddie's Fishing Station tells us that fluking has been very good at Four Corners and Great Island Channel on outgoing water, either anchored and chumming or drifting. These fish are ranging from 2 to 3 pounds with a few going to 6. Weaks are slow and taken mainly by chance on fluke rigs with a high hook tied in about three feet from the sinker. Chummed schoolie bass are a good bet at the 2nd and 3rd Wantagh Bridges on clam bellies at slack water.

BELLMORE

Merrick Marine Supplies reports that Joe Giallanzo of Lindenhurst this past week took what appears to be a new IGFA 12 pound test record for weakfish, with a beauty of 14 pounds 13 ounces. The length was 36 inches, girth 22

inches. The fish was caught on July 14th at the Sore Thumb and weighed in at **Charlie's Bait and Tackle** in Lindenhurst. It is reported that this fish was taken on a white pussy cat lure.

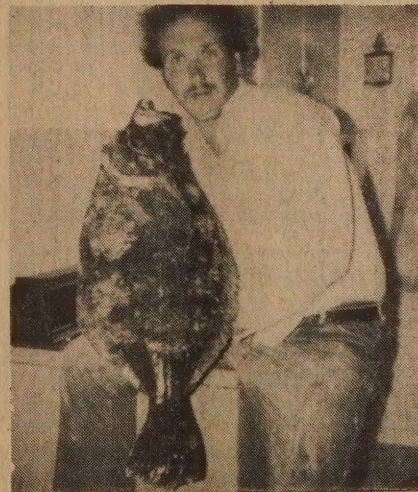
roy also says that blues are invading Jones Inlet almost every eve and are taking everything. Boats, casters and beach fishermen are all scoring. Night-time plugger Chuck Griffith of East Bay Anglers has been taking bass on swimming plugs late at night at the change of the tide in Jones Inlet. Way to go Chuck.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** tells us that Thursday, Friday and Saturday saw GREAT fluke fishing in local back waters, particularly at Merrick Point. Lots of shorts but then plenty of keepers to fill the box in the 15 to 16 inch category. Hal Johnson had 28 keepers on killie and squid on Thursday and Ray Koti had 17 keepers Thursday, nineteen keepers on Friday and 18 on Saturday. A hot spot is a drift from Nick's Texaco sign across the channel to the houses. Bass are still being chummed at the 2nd and 3rd Wantagh bridges on bellies.

BALDWIN

Arthur Street Marina reports crabbing very good in nets from boats. Harvy Silber took a 150 lb. thresher shark, 25 miles southeast of Jones Inlet. Fluking has been very good from Andy's skiffs in Reynolds Channel by the High School. Angler Eddie Smith took 11 keepers on killie and squid.



Frank Wenz caught this 10 1/4 lb. fluke at the East Channel of Shinnecock Inlet on a Hopkins bucktail with light spinning tackle. Subscriber Club Photo.

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N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

The **Aloma II** reports really great fluke fishing. On Saturday though slow in the morning, 30 passengers dug right in in the afternoon for an average of 10 keeper fluke per man while on Sunday, now get this, 40 fares boated over 700 keepers. Captain Paul really LOADED UP, fish averaging 2 pounds. He made 9 drifts on Sunday with anywhere from 75 to 100 fish taken per drift. This was off Playland on sandeels and squid. The **Aloma II** will be strictly fluking all summer. Captain John who is running the **Aloma** has been having very good sea bass fishing on local wrecks and rocks, fish running from ½ to 2 pounds.

The open boat **Captain Hall** of the **Freeport Boatmen's Assn.** started bluefishing on Thursday and has been doing a very good job on these beasts Thursday, Friday and Saturday, fish ranging from 12 to 16 pounds. All action was at the Mud Hole. Friday's pool winner was 16 pounds 4 ounces.

The **Miss Freeport** reports very good fluking all week, fish up to 5 pounds. There are more keepers now and fewer midgets and the fish are generally in all areas.

Captain Richie of the **Starstream II** has had good sea bass action all week, but by the time you read this the boat will be bluefishing 2 trips daily, 6:30 A.M. and 7:30 A.M. Friday night, saw 250 blues from 7 to 10 pounds come over the rail. They have been fishing the Monster Ledge area which is 26 miles from Jones Inlet. Captain Richie expects a very good bluefish season.

Captain Cy Karlin of the **Blue Fin** had charters out on Saturday and Sunday. On Sunday the Hudson Bay Fishing Club of Freeport fished the NC buoy on the **Blue Fin**, taking 44 hungry bluefish on Ava



Jimmy Gould caught this 47 lb. 11 oz. fish aboard the **Miss Freeport** about one mile offshore while fluke fishing. Subscriber Club Photo.

A-27 jigs and also on bait. High hook was Tom Baylor of N.J. and Frank Bocchario of Freeport, each with a 7 pound blue. Ed Mitchell of Island Park nailed down the pool with an 8 plus pound fish. At the wheel was Captain Bill. Cy is happy to announce that his brand new boat, **The Blue Fin II** has just been brought in from the builder on Saturday morning at 7:20 A.M. and the charter was waiting on the dock. Cy had them off the dock by 8:05 A.M. and they proceeded to murder the fluke, Cy said to the tune of roughly 40 fish per drift, fishing west of Jones Inlet. Sand eels and squid were used for bait. The first fish taken on the new boat was by Claire Grady of Staten Island. Saturday night was a moonlight sail and Sunday another successful cruising and fluking charter. The **Blue Fin II** will be docked at the Freeport Boatmen's Assn. She cruises at 16 knots, is 60 feet in length and has a 16 foot beam. She comfortably seats 60 passengers. 54 rod holders grace this new, fast, comfortable boat. There are two heads and Cy has lots of openings for weekday and night charters.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports fluking very good with 9 to 12 fish per boat (keepers). High Flats Drain, Swift Creek and Fundy seemed to be working best with smelts, spearing, killies and squid. Fish up to 4 pounds have been brought in by Anthony's skiffs.

Lucky Strike III had a charter out on Sunday and treated them to 38 keeper fluke up to 3½ pounds along with 7 sea bass.

The **Captain Al** reports fair to good bluefishing both day and night and their charter boat **The Captain II** is having it's best fluking on the morning trips in the inlet and bays.



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Al Drescher of Levittown caught this 48 lb. 9 oz. bass in Jones Inlet on a live bunker. Photo courtesy of Merrick Marine Supply.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station reports very good fluking. Ben and Izak Kozuch of Forest Hills came back on Saturday afternoon with 44 fluke taken on spearing from the flats, which they got on the morning tide. On Sunday, Tom Mazur and Mike Latoraca of N.J. came back with 38 keepers taken from the flats on spearing and sand eels. Fluking was very good over the weekend and along Reynolds Channel to the inlet, buoys 16 and 18. Sea bass have been had at Swift Creek and the bridges. Blues are offshore. Carl Smith of Oceanside took a 27 pound striper on a dead bunker just west of the inlet jetty. Fluking has picked up tremendously.

The Marie III has been doing well on blues fishing south of Ambrose. The fish wanted jigs and nothing but. Diamond jigs, A-27's and Hopkins all took fish while chum and bait were refused. This was Sunday and 50 fish came over the rail. On Saturday they chummed at the Mud Hole for 26 blues. Feathers were trolled going and coming on both trips but no tuna.

ISLAND PARK

Beckman's Tackle in Lynnbrook reports surf fishermen for striped bass have been using plugs in the early morning at both Breezy Point and the West end of Jones Beach. Fluke fishing is pretty good in Reynolds Channel to East Rockaway Inlet using spearing with squid or smelts. Snappers are in but are very small. There have been excellent catches of blue claw crabs off the Long Beach Road Bridge in Oceanside.

Captain Clem of the open boat **Commodore** reports he has been having fantastic fluke action off Playland all week with a few 5 and 6 pounders thrown in for good measure each day. A good 25 keepers per man, says Clem. Lots of 2 to 3 pound fish in the bay and coming over the rails. Lots and lots of fluke around. All you need for success is a good drift. Sandeels, spearing, shiners and squid are all doing the job, and Clem says fishing couldn't be any better. Also, it's a free day's outing what with the value of the fish being caught.

LONG BEACH

Jim at **Long Beach Sports Marina** said fluke fishing was very good and the fish are getting bigger. Boat fishermen are using sand eels or killies and are averaging 12 to 15 keepers. Fishing is good in Reynolds Channel and from the Cedarhurst Yacht Club to Duck Point. The striped bass fishermen at the Atlantic Beach bridge are having fair to middling success clam cumming for the striped bass. From the beach the surf fishermen are into teen size bass. At the bridge striped bass have been rushing the bunker and knocking them around but not taking any bait.

ATLANTIC BEACH

The Atlantic Beach Rod and Gun Club Tournament was won by Marty Feuer with a 225 lb. Mako. 2nd place went to Bob Brennan with a 210 lb. Mako and 3rd place went to Neil Meyer with a 110 lb. Dusky. Sharking has been pretty



Ronnie Morgan of Bayside caught this 220 lb. mako aboard the Kim by the ha buoy.

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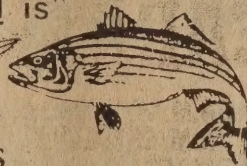
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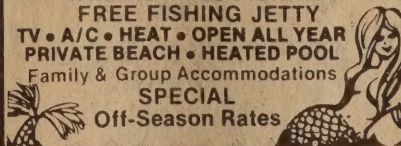
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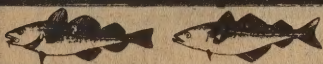
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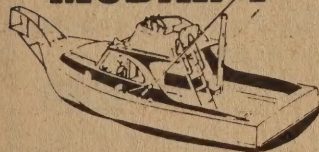
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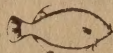
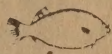
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good throughout the week, though not spectacular. Captain Rod Lepper of the **Kim** and the **Atlantic Beach Charter and Guide Boat Assn.** reports: Ronnie has done most of his shark fishing at the HA and most of the action is in that area. Sharks and mucho 10 to 17 lb. bluefish. Friday he had a 200-250 lb. blueshark on 20 pound test on an Ambassadeur 10,000 reel. The battle was 45 minutes and the shark won, with the hook pulling out at the boat. Ron concludes that boats fishing south of the BA and south of Cholera are enjoying good bluefishing.

JAMAICA BAY

Noehrens Bait & Tackle said the bay is loaded with sand porgies. North and South Channel Bridges are your best spots. Snappers are small and grown and growing larger every day. They will take spearing and small killies. Blue claw crabbing is good and is on the increase. Fluke fishing is good at the Marine

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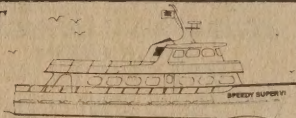
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Parkway Bridge and along the Beach Channel drive from either boats or the sea wall. Good catches are had by using live killies or sand eels.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Good fluking on the Plum Beach flats according to **Bay End Dock**. These are hitting on either spearrings or sand eels and squid. There are a lot of throw backs but the edge of the flats seem to have more keepers. The weak fish are also starting to show for the fluke fishermen. West Gong and The Tin Can Grounds are doing quite well with the striped bass using bunker or umbrella rigs. There are various schools of these bass and they can weigh from 2 or 3 lbs. to 15 or more. Black fish can still be had by trying mostly Rocky areas, Wrecks or Bridges. Also on these same grounds are sea bass.

According to **Stella Maris** there is good fluke fishing at both Riis Park and Sandy Hook. Joe says the party boats fishing at the Mud Hole and the Farms are having good catches of blues.

Captain Charlie Sweeny of the **Chianti** had a charter out for Bob Black and friends on Saturday, and Charlie reports that they clobbered fluke east of Sandy Hook on spearing and squid. Cookie Monster was top dog with a 7 pounder. Action was best in early morning in the fog.

Captain Fred of the **Amberjack** reports Friday night so so on the blues. Some nights good, some poor fishing the Arunda wreck area. A little lacking in

consistency as far as the blues go, says Fred. On the plus side, Saturday night saw 300 fish from 6 to 8 pounds with a few ten pounders flying over the rail. Day fishing is also hot and cold. Water temperature is around mid 60 degrees and this might be a factor. In mid August, the **Amberjack** will be announcing September offshore trips.

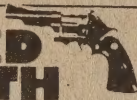
The **Carrie D** has been having excellent fluking for its charters off the



Tony Calabro and party caught 44 blues and 1 weakfish in Staten Island waters board the Johnny K II. The fish ranged between 2 and 4 pounds and were caught on Bingle mini-brellas.

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Ray, mate on the **Helen H** reports excellent bluefishing all week except Sunday, fishing the Klondike and Arunda grounds. Fish are running 3 to 17 pounds, 12 to 15 fish per man. Days and nights are equally as good. A lot of fish are falling to green Ava Bananas during the day and blue Bananas at night as well as bait.

Captain Harold Wregie of the **Chief** reports very, very good fluking off the Rockaways to the tune of 15 to 40 big flatties per man, Monday through Fri. Things were a little slower on Saturday. The fish are running anywhere from 14 inches up to 3 pounds. Harold is also fishing the red side of the Ambrose Channel and the fish there are running up to 5 pounds with spearing and sand eels along with fluke bellies working just fine.

The **Blue Sea II** has been doing very well on blues except for Sunday. Captain Nick is now featuring night bluefish charters along with the regular day time trips for the blue maulers. Customers are taking off sacks of bluefish, 15 to 20 blues per man, fish running 8 to 15 pounds. They are fishing east of the Arunda and the Ambrose area.

The **Flamingo II** has been doing excellent bluefishing Wednesday thru Sunday. "Couldn't be better for old fashioned bluefishing," reports Captain Walter Wiegand. Green Ava Bananas have been doing a great job right along with bait and as good as the bait. He has been fishing west of the arunda which is part of monster ledge where the drop off is worked. Fish are running 5 to 9 pounds with a few monsters. Saturday was picky and Sunday on the poor side. Walter asks that we announce the private boatmen should stay back from the open boats and give them plenty of maneuvering room. Also that small boats going way offshore are playing with fire as squalls can come up very quickly and put a disastrous ending on an otherwise pleasant day's fishing from a small boat offshore.



Ralph DeMalteris with his catch of 28 fluke inshore of buoy 3 on squid and spearing. Photo courtesy of Port of Egypt.

STATEN ISLAND

Santos Sport Shop reports continued good fluke fishing over the weekend. The area from Ft. Wadsworth to Tottenville has good catches of fluke for either the boat or surf fishermen. Snappers are 4 to 5 inches have invaded Great Kills harbor, Ft. Wadsworth and South Beach. For the surf fishermen Pennys Beach has still a lot of striped bass on worms but along with the numerous throwbacks are increasing numbers of fish to 4 lbs. For the boat fishermen Hoffman and Swinburne Islands are getting striped bass of three to seven lbs. mostly on worms or jigging buck tails. There are plenty of blues at #21 can but they show a preference for bunker that is prefereably alive. Sometimes the blues show up at the surf by Ft. Wadsworth and at that time can be taken on bunker or in the early morning on pencil poppers. Princess Bay has small 2 to 4 lb. blues that are hitting bait and also Bingle tubes. Below them are weaks of 4 to 5 lbs. If bigger weaks are wanted Chapel Hill Channel has them that are taking worms or trolled Bingle Lancer or Bannas. Blue claw crabs are fair to good at Great Kills Harbor and



John Delenzik, Jess worley and Oliver Ashley caught 37 weaks to 5 pounds and 16 porgies to 1 3/4 pounds. The fish were caught between the whitehouse on Nassau Point and the radio tower off Rose Grove on sandworms and squid.

action, which is expected to continue to improve.

Artie Latch of the **Wilhelric** said the porgy fishing continues excellent at Gardiner's Island. Some fishermen have had almost a hundred. On Saturday Mr. Zig Anderson and two sons took 175 porgies between them. An occasional blackfish or fluke will surprise the angler and will take the pool.

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

ORIENT POINT

Orient By The Sea Marina reports blues are starting to come in. They are in Plum Gut and are being taken while striped bass fishing with yellow buck-tails. They are 8 to 9 lbs. Porgy fishing is good at Gardiner's Island and fluke is also a winner their.

GREENPORT

A.P. White Bait Shop reports that the **Wilhelric** and **Brand X** are doing very well on porgies on squid and sandworms fishing Gardiner's Island. They are also taking fair catches of blacks and sea bass plus fluke off Gardiner's. Petty's Bite and Truman Beach along the Sound are also producing good fluke on squid and big shiners. Surfcasters are doing very well on striped bass on plugs from Orient to Greenport along the Sound shore. Good blackfish catches are being made in the same area on fiddlers and green crab. Good weakfishing off the Greenport Jetty while Plum Gut is featuring night stripers on yellow 3 ounce buck-tails and white umbrella rigs.

Captain Dave of the **Pooka V** reports that he found the fluking truly excellent on Sunday, when his charter put 105 keeper fluke in the box and threw back an equal number of midgets. Dave is fishing the Sound with squid and spearing. Porgy action was fair for another charter Saturday with steady

SOUTHOLD

Mike at **Southold Fishing Station** reports a few weaks and porgies are being taken. bluefish have been in and out all week. Weaks and porgies have been taken at buoys 16 and 18. Weaks are hitting squid while the porgies show a partiality to worms. The main body of porgies haven't come in yet so try your luck.

NEW SUFFOLK

Phil at **Captain Marty's Fishing station** said there were some nice 2 lb. weaks being taken by porgy fishermen at buoy 22. They have averaged 18 a boat for the weaks and 60 to 70 for the porgies. All this is on sand worms. A few kings still continue to be caught but just several per boat.

ROCKY POINT

Rocky Point Fishing Station reports the best bet is fluke fishing. Buoy 7 at Wading River is best fished on an outgoing tide about 100 to 150 yards off shore in about 25 feet of water. For the kids there are small porgies and snappers all over. From Rocky Point to Miller Place weaks have been diamond jigged in about 60 feet of water. Occasional bluefish of 5 or 6 lbs. have been taken from the beach using popping plugs. Boats do better using bunker or trolling small tubes.

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Rickie DiTusa of Hungington took this 40 lb. bass off Marshall Fields on July 8th. Photo courtesy of Ronnie's Bait and Tackle.

JAMESPORT

According to Frank at **Jamesport Bait & Tackle** weak fishing is good again at buoy 2 in Laurel. 2 to 4 lbs. weaks are hitting hi-lo rigs baited with squid and sandworms. Catches go from 3 to 10 per boat. Porgy fishing is good in the same area and 50 to 60 can be taken if you stay put. The further East you go the smaller the porgies get. 2 to 5 lb. bluefish are being taken in the sound on small tubes trolled. Although these are small fish they are plentiful.

MILLER PLACE

Really good fluke fishing said Dick of **Dick's Sporting Goods**. Buoys 11, 9 and 7 are all good spots about a mile off the beach. Using either killey or spearing with squid are your best bait. Throw backs are at a minimum. On Sunday Dick and his wife Joan took 8 fluke the smallest of which was 16 lbs. Using the above baits they took these fish in approximately 45 min. some blues of 1/2 to 3 lbs. are in scattered schools in the sound. An occasional big one has also been taken. Porgy fishing is just fair at present. Big weak fish every now and then have been taken by either the blue fishermen or the fluke fishermen. On Friday Dick and his spouse took 3 big weaks.

PORT JEFFERSON

Capt. John Fisher says the **Betty W** and the **Janet C** has had very good fluke fishing this past week. The **Betty W** and the **Janet C** on Thursday had a combined catch of 360 fluke for 37 fares. Friday saw 180 fluke taken. Pool fish have been running 6 to 8 lbs. Some blues are starting to show.

Carafis Fishing Station reports a fantastic weekend for fluke fishermen. If you want to catch a good quantity of fluke don't fish the edge of Mt. Misery Shoal like you would for blue fish, come in around 25 ft. of water and fish towards the beach. Sand eels or smelts with squid are your best bet. Big blues of 10 to 15 lbs. are starting to hit bait on the outside. Two of these monsters were caught in Stony Brook channel. Blues of 4 to 5 lbs. are still being trolled deep on wire off Miller Place. Off shore of Flax Pond are plenty of porgies. And John says chumming with bunker doesn't hurt. School striped bass are being taken at the Narrows by worm fishermen at night.

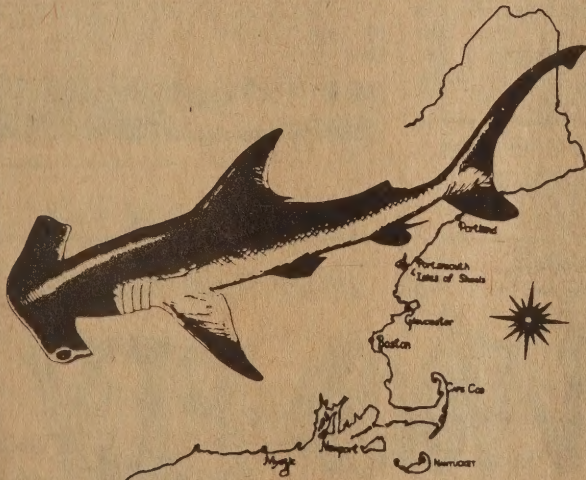
NORTHPORT

This weekend fluke fishing was very good according to **Bowman's Sporting Goods**. Tom says to use smelts in front of either Crab Meadow Creek or Eatons

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Neck Lighthouse. Tom says to remember that in front of the lighthouse is a very fast drift and frozen bait can be used to good advantage here. Fresh bait does not require as swift a drift. The LILCO outlet had bluefish of 2 to 3 lbs. early Sunday morning. Sunday also saw the first of the big blues by Makamah Beach by trollers using surge tubes or umbrella rigs. A few big striped bass have been taken in the evening using a Cape Cod or June Bug spinners under Eaton's Light or close to shore at Marshall Field. Snappers are in solid at the dock for the kids.

HUNTINGTON

Some porgies and weaks were taken on worms in Northport Bay between buoys 6 and 8 according to **Four Winds Tackle**. Weaks were taken on the high hook of the hi-lo rig. Fluke are at Diamond Point and Eaton's Neck. There were a lot of shorts this past week but keepers are 2 lbs. and up. Fluke spinner rigs with spearing or squid have been used at the previous points and also at Makamah. Makamah is not as productive but has bigger fish. On the late afternoon tides mixed bags of weaks and blues were taken under the Eaton's Neck Light over the weekend. Striped bass at present seem to be interested only in worm trolling. George says try Honeyman Point in Centerport or Diamond Point to Marshalls.

Ronnie's Bait & Tackle reports big blues most over 10 lbs. were trolled on wire line with umbrella rigs or white bucktails at Eaton's Neck. A few striped bass were also mixed in. Porgies are back at Marshall Field and Huntington Bay. These plentiful fish are but 1/2 lb. with a few humpbacks thrown in. Snappers of 4 to 5 inches are all over the harbor and being taken on spearing. Fluke were a little spotty but good at Makamah Beach. Striped bass are being caught off the Huntington Inlet and Cold Spring Harbor on worms.



Michael Devaux and Dominick Pucci caught these weaks and stripers in the 3 1/2 to 14 lb. range on Redfins. Photo courtesy of the Rocky Point Fishing Stop.

GLEN COVE

Andy at **Glen Cove Sport Shop** reports a lot of big blues averaging 10 lbs. showed up this weekend. Best bet is live lining with bunker. Striped bass fishing by the same method has slowed. Snappers are thick and are now 5 to 6 inches.

PORT WASHINGTON

Morelands Bait & Tackle says the mouth of Little Neck Bay does pretty well on blues. These have been taken on bunker chunks, tubes or shiny lures and some go to 14 lbs. Most points have lots of fluke and there are very few throwbacks. Fish are averaging 2 lbs. and better. For bigger fish Rocky suggests you make a longer drift into deeper water. Porgies are in most of the sandy areas.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait & Tackle reports there are a lot of sand porgies at the City Island Bridge and Orchard Beach. Nicer ones are at Pea Island and the CBS tower. A few blacks are at Harts, CBS tower, Execution light and Sands Point. School bass on plugs have been taken at night near Harts Island but most of these are throwbacks. A few bluefish are here and there.

flash!

Just as we were finishing these reports **Jack's Bait & Tackle** called to report a 9 1/4 lb. fluke that he had just weighed in. This fish along with 9 others were taken by Louis Caputo of City Island. He took these fish off Mattinecock Point using squid.

CONNECTICUT SCENE

GROTON

Mrs. Claire Glas of the **Hel-Cat** called to tell us that the "Blues are in the Race, right on time!" The first trip was last Thursday, and they did very good with the big choppers on the herring baits rigged up on the chain and drail that Captain George Glas has made so popular for the bluefish. Tony Zukauskas of East Windsor won the pool and the **Hel-Cat's** special weekly award with the 15 pound bluefish he took on Thursday. The **Hel-Cat** will now be sailing daily for a full day trip from 6 A.M. until 3 P.M. for the bluefish in the Race, their specialty.



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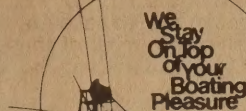
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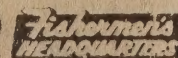
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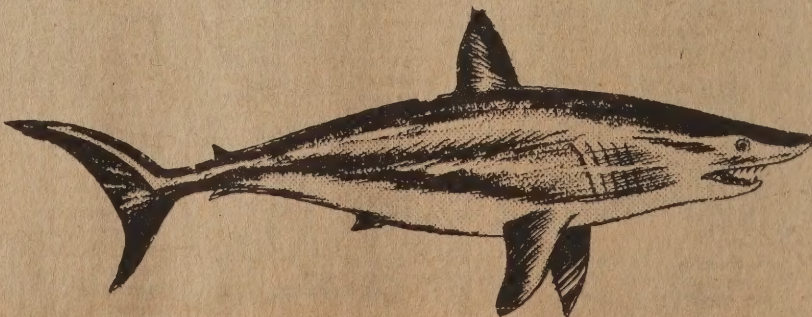
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Makamah Beach	Summer/Fall	Blues	Bait, Plugs
Eastern North Shore	Spring/Fall	Bass, Blues	
Gilgo	Fall	Bass, Blues	Bait
Moriches Inlet	Summer/Fall	Bass, Blues, Weaks	
Moriches Bay	Summer	Bass, Blues, Weaks	Plugs
Ocean—South Shore	Spring/Fall	Flounder	
Ocean—South Shore	Summer	Fluke	
Ocean—Montauk to Jones Beach	Winter	Cod Whiting	
Glen Cove	Spring/Summer	Bass	Mackerel Strips
Long Beach Jetty	Summer or Fall	Bass	Rigged Eels, Bunker
Atlantic Bch. Jetties	Summer or Fall	Bass	
Sore Thumb	Anytime	All Species	All Techniques

If you are interested forward detailed outline to:

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The Long Island Fisherman
Box 143 • Deer Park, N.Y. 11729

Rate of payment per edited word and for black & white photos will be supplied prior to acceptance on request.



HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK		Breakwater Harbor		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT		NEW-PORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THUR	4:40	5:07	5:37	6:09	5:25	5:54	6:36	6:53	8:52	8:49	8:25	8:44	4:44	5:13	7/22
FRI	5:40	6:02	6:30	6:56	6:23	6:45	7:23	7:37	9:45	9:37	9:18	9:34	5:37	6:00	7/23
SAT	6:31	6:50	7:16	7:41	7:16	7:32	8:07	8:18	10:24	10:16	10:06	10:20	6:24	6:45	7/24
SUN	7:19	7:35	8:01	8:21	7:59	8:13	8:50	9:00	10:56	10:53	10:51	11:04	7:10	7:31	7/25
MON	8:03	8:17	8:45	9:06	8:41	8:54	9:32	9:42	11:30	11:34	11:34	11:38	7:54	8:15	7/26
TUE	8:46	8:58	9:29	9:47	9:23	9:33	10:13	10:25	—	12:07	—	12:16	8:40	8:59	7/27
WED	9:31	9:41	10:11	10:29	10:08	10:17	10:57	11:10	12:16	12:45	12:31	12:59	9:24	9:43	7/28
THUR	10:17	10:26	10:56	11:15	10:55	11:06	11:43	11:59	1:02	1:30	1:16	1:42	10:10	10:29	7/29

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area's station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet, ...-0.50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." -0.50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 1/2 hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	- 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	- 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	- 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	- 0 12
Seaside Park	- 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	- 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	- 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	- 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNSEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	- 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	- 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	- 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	- 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	- 0 38
Democrat Point	- 0 38
Coast Guard Station	- 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	- 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	- 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	- 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	- 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	- 0 08
Herod Point	- 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	- 0 20
Truman Beach	- 0 42
Falkner Island	- 0 13
Sachem Head	- 0 10
Branford Harbor	- 0 07
New Haven Harbor	- 0 08
Milford Harbor	- 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	- 0 03
Saugatuck River	- 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	- 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	- 0 14
Montauk Inlet	- 0 25
Montauk Point	- 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	- 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	- 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	- 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higginnum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	- 0 10
Execution Light	- 0 06
Manhasset Bay	- 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	- 0 11
City Island	- 0 03
Rye Beach	- 0 28
Port Chester	- 0 09
Mamaroneck	- 0 08
New Rochelle	- 0 24
Dauids Island	- 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	- 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	- 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	- 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	- 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	- 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	- 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	- 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

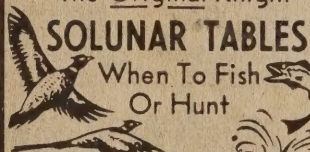
SUNRISE/SUNSET

7/4	5:29	8:39
7/14	5:36	8:35
7/19	5:41	8:31
7/24	5:45	8:27
7/29	5:50	8:22

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
 7/27	 7/4	 7/11	 7/19

The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
When To Fish Or Hunt



The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
THURS.	1:30	7:55	1:55	8:20
FRI.	2:05	8:40	2:35	9:05
SAT.	2:50	9:25	3:20	9:55
SUN.	3:35	10:15	4:10	10:45
MON.	4:25	11:05	5:00	11:30
TUES.	5:15	11:55	5:45	—
WED.	6:05	12:20	6:35	12:50
THURS.	7:00	1:15	7:25	1:45

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